THE TYRANT

Written by

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Based on true political events which lead to the fall of Zimbabwe President.

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FADE IN:

EXT. MABVUKU, HARARE - AERIAL SHOT - DAY

Flying low over the massive sprawl of the city of Mabvuku, one of the populous Harare suburbs.

Over the narrator, we see the local movie theater, Mabvuku Sports Ground, the simple houses, Mabvuku High School, etc.

NARRATOR
Just as there is no single thing in the world without a dual nature this is the law of the unity of opposites. So the former President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe had a dual nature - he was a real cork.

EXT. ZANU PF HEAD QUARTERS - AERIAL SHOT - DAY

CU on the statue of a CORK mounted on the top of the building.

NARRATOR
And he was also a paper cork at the same time. In the past before he won state power and for some time afterwards. He was a once-respected liberation leader.

INT. STADIUM - DAY

President Mugabe addressing the people of Zimbabwe on the independence day.

THE PRESIDENT
Zimbabwe will never be a colony gain.

A loud ROAR from the people.

NARRATOR
He was a fearful man, respected in Africa in Africa.

THE PRESIDENT
Our support will continue until we are certain that the territorial integrity of the Congo has been restored,
NARRATOR
He was well known in the world and then a great opposition rises which was about to overthrow him.

THE PRESIDENT
But of course we say go to hell. Go to hell, our people have decided and that is what matters to us. It's not the right or responsibility of the British to decide on our elections. We don't decide for them and why should they poke their pink noses in our business? What's this latter day Blair imperialism? We will defeat Blair on March 9 and 10. So Mr. Blair I say keeps your Britain and I will keep my Zimbabwe

EXT. MABVUKU PARK - DAY
Hundreds of men and women in Red t-shirt the MDC party’s regalia are gathered.

MT (O.S.)
This may look not good thing, but it’s a fact and in reality it’s a good thing indeed. Poverty gives rise to the desire for change, the desire for action and the desire for democracy.

MORGAN TSVANGIRAI (MT) late forties is at the podium. Ceiling supporters. He is The President of the biggest opposition party in Zimbabwe MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE MDC. He is average tall, fat with big cheeks which had earned him a nick name ‘Chematama’ meaning the one with big cheeks from his rival ZANU PF members.

MT (CONT’D)
If there is to be a change and a democracy in Zimbabwe there must be a democratic party. Without a party built on the democratic theory and in democratic style, it’s impossible to lead the people of Zimbabwe in defeating ZANU PF and its corrupt leaders.
BRUCE CHITIMA, 24, He is short, slim and handsome. You might mistake him with high school boys but his face and beard begin to betray his adulthood. He is standing in the back wearing a black shirt.

MT (CONT’D)
A revolution is an insurrection, an act of violence by which one class overthrows another. Whoever sides with the democratic people is a democracy. If Mugabe doesn’t go peacefully will remove him violent

Suddenly, outside the crowd swells forward with a collective ROAR.

CROWD
(with shona language)
Change! Change! Change!

NARRATOR
The opposites grew in strength and persevere in their struggle step by step, struggled against Mugabe more and more fiercely. However, the most infuriated people were in his party. They battled him that he would not enjoy the support he had in the past and lost touch with the people and his own party.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION - LIVING ROOM

We realize we have been watching the rally on the big screen.

President Mugabe is sitting in on the sofa in a tracksuit. The First Lady is sitting across having some snacks.

Their two KIDS ROBERT JNR and CHATUNGA in their teens are playing games on their lap-tops.

THE PRESIDENT
After the war with enemy with guns it seems like I have the enemy without guns now.
NARRATOR
In the aftermath of the death of Vice-President Muzenda, the reformists within Zanu PF and others merely vying for political power for its own sake became particularly active within the context of the debate, discussion and consultation that started after the 2000 parliamentary election because there was now a key vacancy in the top hierarchy of the party. It was clear that whoever filled the vacancy would be the successor to President Mugabe. A lot of meetings were held at places such as to find a candidate to fill the vacancy. President Mugabe begins losing touch with his own party.

EXT. TSHOLOTSHO - DAY

High over the city on a bright Saturday morning. We descend toward expensive cars tailgating in the street.

INT. TSHOLOTSHO - HALL - DAY

A small hall used as Conference room. Its a joint meeting of Zanu PF provincial chairmen and provincial governors under the chairmanship of NORMAN MATUNHU, the party's national commissar. Among them is PATRICK CHINAMASA , Deputy Secretary, Dept of Legal Affairs. All men are around 50 and above.

Professor JONATHAN MOYO Minister of Information and Communications Technology and Cyber Security is delivering a speech from his notes.
PROFESSOR
Comrades, the top four leadership positions in the ruling Zanu PF - president and first secretary, two vice-presidents and second secretaries and national chairman - which make up the party's presidency, should reflect Zimbabwe's regional diversity and ethnic balance between and among the country's four major ethnic groupings, namely Karanga, Manyika, Zezuru and Ndebele in order to promote and maintain representative national cohesion, development, peace and stability while fostering a broad-based sense of national belonging and identity.

A beat. And Professor looks up from his notes like a lecturer teaching some students. They don’t call him professor for nothing. There's silence. Some nods. Understanding.

PROFESSOR (CONT'D)
That means the top position of president and first secretary of the party should not be monopolized by one sub-tribe but should reasonably rotate among the four major ethnic groupings; that the filling of these top four positions should not be by imposition by the party hierarchy but through democratic elections done by secret balloting.

He pauses and reaches for his bottle of cold water. After a large mouthful to cool his body he seems like he had been refuelled. He takes his handkerchief and wipes away sweat glistening on his face and on his bald head.

THE PROFESSOR
So the filling of the top four leadership positions and the democratic elections should be defined and be guided by and done in accordance with the constitution of the party to promote the rule of law within the party as a foundation for maintaining the rule of law in the country. This is what Tsholotsho declaration is.
The comrades nod their heads.

INT. CROCODILE OFFICE - DAY

Matunhu is sitting facing EMERSON MNANGAGWA ZANU PF secretary for administration well known as The Crocodile. Crocodile, at 55, already has the patrician look that has served the male members of his family for generations.

Crocodile had just finished reading the typed paper of Tsholotsho declaration.

CROCODILE
So, this is the outcome of deliberations of provincial chairmen and provincial governors.

MATUNHU
Yes, comrade and this essence are to adopt the principles of what is being known as the Tsholotsho Declaration.

INT. BEATRICE - HALL - DAY

ZANU PF POLITICIANS AND TECHNOCRATS linked to SOLOMON MUJURU'S camp, 60, the Kingpin of ZANU PF are gathers. Among them are former Minister of Information Communications Technology and Cyber Security SIMBA MHOFU, 75.

MUJURU
We must not accept this Tsholotsho Declaration and scuttle the impending inevitable election of Mnangagwa which would break the Zezuru ethnic of presidential power.

Mujuru looks around the room at the men, the murmurs of general agreement, the consensus building.

MHOFU
I propose that there is a need to find a vice-president who would not overshadow President Mugabe in both stature and capacity. The best strategy for achieving this is to use the women's congress to garner support for a woman candidate, Joice Mujuru.
MHOFU (CONT’D)
This would kill two birds with one stone: block the application of the Tsholotsho Declaration thereby effectively blocking Mnangagwa’s ascendancy while enabling the emergence of a second vice-president who would not overshadow Mugabe but who would maintain the Zezuru ethnic domination and hegemony in Zimbabwean politics.

INT. CONFERENCE CENTRE - DAY
President Mugabe addressing the women’s congress.

THE PRESIDENT
The vacant post for vice-president and second secretary previously held by the late Vice President Simon Muzenda should be reserved for a woman.

Pan around Professor and his Tsholotsho Declaration crew are shocked.

INT. BULAWAYO - PROFESSOR’S OFFICE - DAY
Professor is in his office typing on a computer. There is a knock on the door.

Tsholotsho Zanu PF district coordinating committee, NHAMO RUSIKE, and the Tsholotsho rural district council chairman, MANUEL DUMISANI enters.

PROFESSOR
Comrades!

They shake hands.

RUSIKE
How are you sir?

THE PROFESSOR
I’m good and how are you Mr. Chairman?

DUMISANI
I’m okay.

THE PROFESSOR
Great.
RUSIKE
We want you to help us to invite Mr. Mnangagwa to be the guest of honour at a speech and prize giving day at Dinyane High School in Tsholotsho on November 18, 2004.

PROFESSOR
Well I do my best but that is a short notice comrades the secretary for administration is busy with preparations for the party congress scheduled for December.

DUMISANI
Come on professor, we had seen Mr. Mnangagwa at Ntalale Secondary School in Matabeleland South. He was a guest of honour at a speech and prize giving day which had tremendously benefited the school hardly a week earlier, and that we needed to try and bring similar benefits to Dinyane High School in Tsholotsho.

RUSIKE
You need to take advantage of an event such as this. We are proposing to bring the senior leadership of the party, especially provincial chairmen, to Tsholotsho as part of our parliamentary election campaign for the March 2005 election.

PROFESSOR
I will do my best guys.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT
Professor and Crocodile in the privacy of an alcove table. They discus the Tsholotsho’s journey.

CROCODILE
So how is the arrangement for the prize giving day at Dinyane High School?
PROFESSOR
We would leave for Tsholotsho in the morning by Air Zimbabwe to Bulawayo and drive from there.

CROCODILE
Well it's okay.

PROFESSOR
I will forward you to the draft speech and confirmed travel arrangements as well as logistical preparations in Tsholotsho itself tomorrow.

CROCODILE
Cool.

EXT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE - DAY
Professor carries the phone with him as he paces hard from his desk to his window.

PROFESSOR
(into phone)
Comrade.

CROCODILE (O.S.)
Can you come to my office like now? There is a new development that may interrupt our journey.

PROFESSOR
Okay Comrade I'm on my way.

Professor hangs up.

INT. CROCODILE’S OFFICE - OFFICE - DAY
Professor sitting across facing Crocodile.

PROFESSOR
So what’s up again?

CROCODILE
It’s no longer possible for us to travel by Air Zimbabwe in the morning.

(MORE)
CROCODILE (CONT'D)
I had been called by President Mugabe and told to convene an emergency Zanu PF politburo meeting the next tomorrow to discuss very serious complaints Mugabe had received about preparations for the nomination of the party's leadership scheduled for November as per the letter that I had sent to provinces with President Mugabe's specific.

PROFESSOR
Do you think I can call to reschedule their event?

CROCODILE
If it’s possible. But the emergency politburo meeting would be brief because the president is scheduled to depart that afternoon for Zanzibar.

PROFESSOR
Well then we can hire a private plane or helicopter to Tsholotsho.

CROCODILE
That may work out.

INT. PARLIAMENT - CABINET ROOM - MORNING

The President is addressing the ZANU PF politburo. It’s made up of 49 MEMBERS.

THE PRESIDENT
I had called for the meeting in response to concerns that some members of the politburo had raised regarding procedures for the nominations of the top leadership of the party scheduled for November 21 2004 ahead of the party's congress.

He takes a breathe. He is old and should be at home telling the grandchildren some folk stories.
THE PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
The nominations were supposed to be done by provincial executive councils, that the position of one of the vice-presidents and second secretaries had not been reserved for a woman as I directed at the women's congress. There had been reports indicating that some provinces did not have funds to facilitate the nomination meetings.

NOKUTENDA NYIKA Committee Member and JOHN MADINDA Second Secretary, Dept of The Presidium raises complaints with President Mugabe.

NYIKA
Excuse me Mr. President. Reports that there were no funds for the provinces to facilitate the nomination meetings are false.

MADINDA
I concur with comrade Madinda and we can clarify that.

CROCODILE
That’s true Mr. President. I had followed the provisions of the party's constitution and I had consulted extensively the national commissar and he had sought specific approval from your Excellency of my letter of November 11 2004 spelling out the procedures.

CHINAMASA
Comrade Mnangagwa's letter of November 11 detailing the procedures for nominations was consistent with the constitution. We have the copies right now.

Nyika nods, vindicated. The others murmur their approval. Chinamasa produce COPIES from his files which are distributed around so that everyone get his or her.

Crocodile gives Chinamasa a curt nod. Chinamasa tilts his head at the President: pass the note on to him. Crocodile rises, slips the note in front of the President. The President unfolds the note, and we HOLD ON IT and his reaction as in the b.g., out of focus, Mujuru speaks:
MUJURU
What is this Tsholotsho Declaration? We must amend of the party's constitution.

The men come to grips with their own fears, own anger. Mhofu clears his throat. Speaks from somewhere down the table.

MHOFU
The nominations must be done by provincial coordinating committees without a secret ballot. The politburo members would also participate in the nominations.

Mujuru stares at Chinamasa, and beating out each word.

MUJURU
Four members are being the president and first secretary, the two vice-presidents and second secretaries with one of the vice-presidents and second secretaries being a woman, and the national chairman of the party

The President folds the note away, glances at Chinamasa. A beat, the President looks from Chinamasa to Mnangagwa.

Chinamasa and the others watch him in silence. A long, dramatic pause. A course that will change history is about to be chosen. The President leans forward, folds his hands on the table.

PRESIDENT
We direct you Comrade Munangagwa to withdraw your earlier letter of Tsholotsho Declaration issue and put a new letter dated on today’s date based on the new amendment of the constitution by the politburo.

END MAIN TITLE SEQUENCE

INT. PARLIAMENT - CROCODILE’S OFFICE - LATER

Crocodile is writing on his computer. There is a knock.

CROCODILE
Come in.
Professor walks in and takes a sit.

PROFESSOR
Afternoon comrade.

CROCODILE
Afternoon Professor.

PROFESSOR
I saw you message that you won’t be able to make it. How was the meeting?

CROCODILE
The politburo simply ignored the party Tsholotsho Declaration platform.

A beat

CROCODILE (CONT’D)
I’m making and effect the constitutional amendments that had been illegally sanctioned by the politburo today. I will ask Chinamasa to go with you.

EXT. HELIPORT - BULAWAYO - DAY

A private helicopter land. Chinamasa and Professor climb out and walk to a Benz waiting for them.

EXT. ROAD - TSHOLOTSHO - LATER

The Benz speeding down the highway.

EXT. TSHOLOTSHO - PARKING LOT - SUNSET

The Benz found a place to park. Professor and Chinamasa walks out. They are welcomed by SIX provincial chairmen and other ZANU PF leaders.

After the greeting one of the Provincial Leader breaks the silence.

P LEADER #1
We got the wind of the emergency politburo meeting earlier in the day.
P LEADER #2
Yes, give us first-hand information about it.

CHINAMASA
Wait until after the Dinyane programme which had to be rushed through.

EXT. DINYANE HIGH SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Professor and Tsholotsho Declaration crew are sitting at the VIP watching Chinamasa giving some prize to the students.

INT. BULAWAYO RAINBOW HOTEL - NIGHT

The provincial chairmen and other ZANU PF leaders are having dinner. Professor and Chinamasa approach and join them.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER

Chinamasa is briefing his fellow comrades about the politburo meeting.

CHINAMASA
Even if the politburo had erred by amending the party’s constitution when it did not have the power to do so. Loyal party members are duty-bound to respect the decision of the politburo and to find other legal ways of registering their outrage at what had happened.

PARTY LEADER #1
I think we should respect the politburo decision but we must rejected the view that the only vacant position was that previously held by the late Muzenda and that it had to be filled by Joice Mujuru.

PROFESSOR
Mujuru is not the most senior or most qualified woman to be nominated as one of the two vice-presidents and second secretaries of the party.
P LEADER #2
I suggest the entire top four positions, including that is hold by Mugabe, is vacant.

CROWD
Yes.

They all clap hands.

INT. CONFERENCE CENTRE - DAY
We begin with claps of hands but much louder as there is a big crowd. President Mugabe is addressing the congress.

THE PRESIDENT
Like what I said before that one of the three members of the presidium should be a woman. I’m going to delegate Joice Mujuru as the first vice-president of the party and subsequently state Vice-President.

POV ON JOYCE MUJURU sitting with his husband Solomon Mujuru. They are happy.

Another-Angle Crocodile and Professor remain cool.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
She also could become the party leader in future. I don't tolerate the principles of the Tsholotsho Declaration. And I don't tolerate those accusing me of tribalism and I take exception to what I’m saying is an insulting accusation because I'm a revolutionary and not a tribalism.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONFERENCE CENTER - LATER
Professor and Chinamasa are walking on the parking lot.

PROFESSOR
It’s now clear guys that Mugabe had chosen his heir apparent.
PROFESSOR (CONT’D)
It’s clear the amendments were done to deny the opportunity for Mnangagwa to become the Vice-President and potential successor.

INT. PRESIDENT’S OFFICE - DAY

President, VP MUJURU and Professor are having a meeting.

THE PRESIDENT
So professor you were the brains behind the so-called Tsholotsho Declaration where the majority of Zanu PF provincial leaders forged an alliance to back Mnangagwa against Mujuru.

Professor remains quiet. A chill runs down his spine. He looks in shock to the President. The President remains calm. But in place of the fated look the President has had, there's a hesitation.

PRESIDENT
(mocking)
I’m sorry that you lost. You know even if the Tsholotsho Declaration had succeeded through the party nominations and elections, the leadership would have rejected the result.

Professor just smiles.

THE PRESIDENT
What you’ve done I take it as a coup. I use to trust you but you have let me down. I’m sorry to tell you that you are fired. Go and form your own ZANU PF which will use Tsholotsho Declaration.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

Bruce walks down the street.

The CAMERA walks with him.
NARRATOR
Joice Mujuru rose to become the most powerful woman in Zimbabwe. Initially, she completely overshadowed her co-Vice-President, Joseph Msika, but her star began to wane when her husband openly confronted President Mugabe, telling him to step down at the Goromonzi party annual conference in 2006.

EXT. GOROMONZI HALL - DAY
People crowded in the hall watching Mujuru giving a speech.

NHONGO
I think it’s time for our president to go on pension.

The crowd remains quiet amazed by his speech.

CUT TO:

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION - NIGHT
President Mugabe is sitting curled on sofa with his wife watching a file tape. She raps her fingers on the table.

FIRST LADY
Who is this man thinks he is to tell you to resign. Just because he pushes you to put his wife as the vice president he thinks that he got some rights to decide for you to step down.

THE PRESIDENT
He wants to push his wife to be my successor.

FIRST LADY
You must remove his wife as from the vice as soon as possible. You know what will be the end of it assassination.
EXT. MUTARE ROAD - DAY

A Jeep moves through afternoon traffic. It reduces its speed and negotiates the bend at Mabvuku turn off.

INT. JEEP - DAY

MUSIC is BLARING. It's MDC party song.

TREVOR MASHIRI is alone at the wheel. He's handsome, simply dressed in t-shirt and jeans.

He seems to be enjoying the ride until the cell phone lying on the passenger sit is heaps CDs with songs sung by MDC activist. He is a musical producer of the MDC party.

EXT. KAMUNHU SHOPPING CENTER - DAY

It is a typical business complex at the height of the day’s activities, side walk that is lined with pushcarts and vendors.

Bruce is walking forces his way across the sidewalk into the edge of Tafara way holding an exercise book.

He begins to walk up on the shoulder of Tafara way. A car screeches to halt behind him giving him a jump. He turns around to shout at the driver but realizes it is Trevor’s car.

He walks around to the driver’s side and Trevor lowers the window.

BRUCE
You are lucky man. I was going to smash your car’s screen.

Trevor laughs.

TREVOR
Sorry man I gave you a fright now let me give you a ride.

INT. JEEP - DAY

Bruce rides shotgun. The CDs which were on the passenger’s sit are now on the dashboard.

BRUCE
So you are now making money with those Cds.
TREVOR
At list you can’t complain. The only problem is that there is no democracy in our country. They can’t play on the air and you can’t play them aloud in the comfort of your own house in fear of neighbors.

BRUCE
One has to think twice before he buys them.

TREVOR
Only true members of the party who had scarifies their lives for democracy are the ones who buys. Don’t you have your own song?

He looks at him.

TREVOR (CONT’D)
I know my man is creative. You were always a good essay writer at school.

BRUCE
I have some articles I want to contribute in the newsletter of the MDC party.

He stretches his hand at the back sit and reaches for a brand new MDC t-shirt.

TREVOR
Here is for you.

He looks at it.

BRUCE
What for? My vote is my secret I don’t want to show the world which party I belong to. Writing an articles concerning for a changes in Zimbabwe doesn’t make a member of MDC party.

TREVOR
I know you don’t like ZANU PF and you hate that man Mugabe the tyrant. Anyhow one day you will need it. Take it.
BRUCE
I have something to put inside my shirt in winter time or else the ZANU PF guys will assault me.

TREVOR
If you are afraid of war day in day out what will you do if war eventually comes?

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - SPARE BEDROOM - NIGHT

The house is four roomed consisting of the Master’s bedroom, spare bedroom, small kitchen adjoined to the living room.

Bruce lies on a bed writing in the exercise book

BRUCE’S VOICE
Democracy is there to replace the monocracy. It’s time for a change and time for your rest and enjoys the beautiful of the land you had fought for. If you do not respect the masses, then you will cease to be a hero and a model. Your stubbornness will bring your downfall.

He drops the pen down and dozes off.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ROSELYN HOUSE - A PRINTING SHOP - MORNING

We are in a single room which does typing, photocopying and printing. Bruce talks, Unruly the TYPIST is writing furiously at her computer - we see her fingers working wonders - the letters just fly up on the screen. She is pretty around twenties.

BRUCE
You are really good on your work.

TYPIST
I’m now used to the keys of the keyboard I can do it closing my eyes.

BRUCE
How long have you been doing this?
TYPIST
Four years now.

BRUCE
You are running the business by yourself or your are working for someone?

TYPIST
I’m an employee?

BRUCE
Your boss is he?

TYPIST
Yes, but why?

BRUCE
Keep the good word perhaps you may end up being his wife.

TYPIST
He is married and I’m also married. In spite that we are all married he is double my age.

BRUCE
Then you will make his truly better half.

TYPIST
What won’t I be crazy to marry a person same age as my mother.

BRUCE
Love got no age and let me tell you a good romantic story of a fair lady who falls in love with an older man.

INT. PRESIDENT’S OFFICE – MORNING

GRACE MARUFU pretty woman work on computer, generating documents. She is wearing a miniskirt crossing her legs.

The President walks in Grace Looks up and smiles at the president shyly.

GRACE
Morning sir.

THE PRESIDENT
Hi, Grace how are you?
GRACE
Fine thanks.

The President continues to his executive office. He gets in and takes a sit on his rocking chair.

Grace steps in and sit across.

GRACE (CONT’D)
Tea or coffee sir?

PRESIDENT
(jokingly)
I need to drink you today. Come and sit down I need to talk with you.

Grace panics.

PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
It’s okay Grace. Just a general talk.

She smiles.

PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
I want you know about your personnel life.

CUT TO:

INT. ROSELYN HOUSE - A PRINTING SHOP - MORNING

The typist is paying a bit of attention to Bruce.

BRUCE
This two love birds falls in love. They get married and at first people said what they said. But she didn’t care she was proud enough to be the wife of her boss. She was typist like you and now she is the First lady.

TYPIST
Oh, gees thats is where your story is.

BRUCE
Don’t you think The President and the First Lady can make their own romantic story like Romeo and Juliet?
Well what will you call it the Young and the Restless.

Bruce nods his head.

I don’t know.

The Older President and the Young First Lady.

Too long for a title.

Love has no age.

I’m still looking for the right title. I have been talking too much without asking the cost so, how much?

She begins to print out what she has been typing.

Dollar per page.

Gees, how many copies do we come up with?

Fifty!

Alas! That means fifty bucks.

Yes, sir.

By the way my name is Bruce.

Okay Sir Bruce.

Bruce that’s my first name and Chitima is my last name.
Okay Sir Bruce Chitima.

Well, are you not giving me a discount?

Oh, but you are going to make a lot of money with your articles.

If you think so then you should print for me on credit and when I make money out of them I will pay you double.

Wow, you are kidding. So you are a political writer or an MDC activist.

I’m a script write I’m writing for the MDC because I’ve not yet started selling my scripts. I hate ZANU and if I’m to vote I will go for MDC. Look we don’t have jobs and our economy is poor. I should be in Hollywood studying film but I can’t afford to go because our currency has lost its value.

Heavily armed riot police are blocking the road preventing a "Save Zimbabwe" prayer meeting with some barricades. The water cannons are on standby.

The MDC people approaches them singing. Some of them are carrying banners boldly written ‘SAVE ZIMBABWE’

TM is on the lead. Bruce and Trevor are also part of the crowd.

The POLICE LEADER signals to his team.

The crowd starts to scatter, as the police surges around them. They discharge their tear gas. The stench is so powerful that people are coughing and choked.
They hold handkerchiefs or pieces of clothing up to their noses. Their eyes red from the fumes.

The place is filled with white smoke.

**CU Some six or seven police forces approach.**

The crowd fight back with the police, they pick up rocks and begin throwing them at the police.

**CU others burning the barricades.**

**CU The police charging with water cannons to disperse the crowds.**

**CU Tsvangirai his bodyguards trying to prevent the police force to lay their hands on the MT.**

The police force assault them sending them to the ground. They surround Tsvangirai. He is beaten on the head with iron bars. There is blood all over his face. They had him on the ground, beating him with nightsticks.

**CU the to the left A HUGE MDC Activist is slugging it out with a COP, matching each other blow for blow.**

**CU Bruce sees a police assaulting a young woman. He rushes and kicks the police at the back with a flying kick.**

He looks at the woman and suddenly she screams as a tear gas container hit his shoulder and he collapse to the ground and buried with a smoke from it.

Trevor watches from a distance, tears his shirt into half covers his nose and rushes for the aid of his friend.

He gives Bruce the other half off his shirt to cover his nose, but it’s too late the gas has already choked him and he is coughing badly.

Two police officer hold Trevor from behind, twisting his arm behind him and holding a forearm across his neck. Trevor is fighting back, struggling to get loose, but to no avail. The police had him in an unbreakable grip.

**CU A police van screeches to halt and the police forces armed with riffle jumps out off the car. They had come for back up.**

One of the officers opens a fire.

**BULLET'S POV: Heading fast toward one of the ACTIVIST. It HITS. The Activist puts his hands to his face and falls to the ground next to Bruce, screaming.**
The sound of the gun makes the crowd retreat and runs away.

Two police officer hold Trevor from behind, twisting his arm behind him and holding a forearm across his neck. Trevor is fighting back, struggling to get loose, but to no avail. The police had him in an unbreakable grip. Several police rushes over and one of them hit him hard on the ribs with a stick.

CUT TO:

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - NIGHT

Her MOTHER middle age is watching TV. Her sister Winfield is cooking. The door is slightly opens.

There is a small knock and Bruce walks in with a bandage around his arm. Her mother sees him. Tears fall down. She gets up and hugs him. Her sister also goes to embrace him.

MOTHER
Thank God they didn’t do much damage.

SISTER
How are you feeling?

BRUCE
I need to sleep. Is there warm water for me to bath first?

MOTHER
I told you to stay away from politics you are applying your death warrant.

BRUCE
No, they have just baptisms me. This is the beginning not the end.

MOTHER
You have got to get some therapy.

EXT. HARARE - AERIAL VIEW - DAY

We fly through the city of Harare under the narrator’s voice.

NARRATOR
President Robert Mugabe continued to fight tooth-and-nail with Morgan Tsvangirai to stay in power. He charged him with treason – a crime punishable by death.

(MORE)
Mr Tsvangirai denied the charges and claimed he was the victim of a set-up by the government.

We land at Harvest House parking lot were MT is being interviewed by reporters.

MT

The reason for charging me is obvious. We are going into a presidential election and this was only a strategy to keep me out of the race. If any crime was committed in December, why wait until just weeks before the election?

NARRATOR

The charges give Mr. Mugabe several options in the battle with his arch-rival. He could have him arrested at any point in the next two weeks or use the charges as an excuse for failing to recognise the result of the election if the opposition leader were to win.

EXT. HARARE - VARIOUS SHOTS - DAY

Bruce marching in the MDC campaigning in town

Bruce selling MDC, songs at people who are gathering at MDC’s rally.

Bruce distributing some fliers in the city of Harare.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TSHOLOTSHO - DAY

Professor is addressing the residents.

PROFESSOR

I beg for you, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters to vote for me as your MP. In spite I'm now an independent candidate that won't stop my mission of developing this place.

(MORE)
This is my home and this is my place I've been raised as an orphan after my father was killed in the Gukaruhundi which claims the lives of more than 20,000.

CUT TO:

INT. STATE HOUSE - DAY

President Mugabe, The First lady and Mai Mujuru are having the meeting.

VP MUJURU
It seems like we are never going to have a parliament sit in Tsholotsho.

THE PRESIDENT
The Professor got guts to return to the parliament. He is trying to cover his shame of being expelled from the party. I think we should ban these political rallies to stop opposition to motivate people in voting for them

FIRST LADY
Mr. President is right. That will authorise only you to have the rallies.

EXT. HARARE - DAY

MT addressing a rally.

MT
There would be more demonstrations in the lead-up to elections, despite a ban. We will make the dictatorship costly. They will have to buy more tear gas and put more police on standby to keep their regime in power.

The crowd roars.

EXT. CHINHOYI PRIMARY SCHOOL - DAY

The fatal day of the election finally arrived.
The elections are in progress and Bruce is one of the electoral observers deployed to monitor the MDC party.

People are voting peacefully.

**DISSOLVE TO:**

**EXT. BRUCE’S HOUSE – MORNING – FEW DAYS AFTER**

Bruce is watering some flowers outside the gate. On the opposite house. A short attractive beautiful girl BEATRICE around twenty walks out of the gate with a grade one kid, FAITH. She is carrying the satchel of the kid.

Bruce and Beatrice meet eyes. He abruptly turns away. Confused for a moment, a lady so beautiful it nearly hurts to look at her. Beatrice hold Faith’s hand and they walks away.

**INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE – MORNING**

Winfield is cleaning the house when Bruce rushes in.

**WINFIELD**

Are you alright/

**BRUCE**

I saw a beautiful girl coming on the house across taking Faith to the school.

**WINFIELD**

She is Beatrice she is the new maid.

**BRUCE**

Thanks with the name I’ve somewhere to start with.

**WINFIELD**

Hey Bruce I’m lying.

She looks up Bruce has already left.

**EXT. STREETS – DAY**

School children going to school.

Beatrice pauses and gives Faith her bag. They waves goodbye and she turns and nearly bumps into Bruce. She can’t help but notice her – he’s handsome.
BRUCE
Hi Beatrice.

BEATRICE
HI. How do you know my name?

BRUCE
Won’t it be strange if I don’t know
my neighbor’s name?

BEATRICE
But I don’t know your name.

BRUCE
I’m Winfield’s brother.

BEATRICE
Oh, you are his brother.

BRUCE
Yeah. My name is Bruce and you are
Beatrice, B and B with C and E on
both ends God has something to do
with this.

Beatrice laughs.

BEATRICE
Come on that is coincidence.

BRUCE
You think so. Look at these two
words man and woman. You know the
meaning of woman because she had
come from man. So Beatrice means
you come from Bruce

BEATRICE
No, that’s not.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - LATER

Bruce is having tea. Winfield walks in.

WINFIELD
Oh, you are back. So you went after
her.

BRUCE
Oh, yes. She bumped into me after
leaving Faith.
WINFIELD
And then?

BRUCE
We talked. You know the rest.

WINFIELD
You are already in love.

BRUCE
Why not?

WINFIELD
She is a cheap girl.

BRUCE
No she is not cheap. It was love at first sight.

INT. SHOP - DAY

Beatrice is doing some shopping while Bruce is pushing the basket for her.

BEATRICE
So what do you do for a living?

BRUCE
I’m a Script writer. You know when I watch a film I see a script and when I read a script I see a film.

BEATRICE
Oh, that’s great I would love to read of your scripts.

INT. BEATRICE’S HOUSE - DAY

Bruce and Beatrice are curled on a sofa eating some popcorn.

BRUCE
It looks like I will begin writing a new script of romantic called Bruce and Beatrice.

BEATRICE
Wow, I would like to see it on the print.

He holds her fingers looks into her eyes and they kiss.
EXT. KAMUNHU SHOPPING CENTER - DAY

Bruce and Trevor are having braai drinking some beer. Bruce is wearing a white summer shirt with a red t-shirt inside.

People are enjoying a group of female dancers dancing on the open space in front of popular night clubs which are joined together.

TREVOR
This time Tsvangirai has won.

BRUCE
Why are they delaying to give us the results?

TREVOR
Because we have win. They want to pack and go before they produce the results because prison is waiting for them.

CUT TO:

INT. MOONLIGHT NIGHT CLUB - BOTTLE STORE - DAY

Bruce walks across coming from the Gents which is on the corner.

Four young men around his age approache him.

GADZO
Hi comrade.

BRUCE
What’s up.

YOUTH #1
Can you take off your shirt?

BRUCE
My shirt but why?

YOUTH #2
We want to see your t-shirt.

BRUCE
You like my t-shirt.

YOUTH #1
We don’t have time for funnies.
BRUCE
It’s you who are having funny moments with me. You want me to take off my shirt and you want to see my t-shirt, is not that funny. Why me? Why not everybody in this bottle store?

GADZO
We want to see if that t-shirt is not for the MDC party.

BRUCE
You have no right to force me to take off my t-shirt.

EXT. KAMUNHU SHOPPING CENTER - DAY
Trevor is busy tasting the barbecue.

TREVOR
(talking to himself)
No salt.

As he reaches for the salt shaker a female hand reaches it first before him. She is a popular HOOKER who hooks around at moonlight night club.

HOOKER
You friend is in trouble with ZANU PF youths.

TREVOR
What!

Trevor drops down his beer and rushes across to the bottle store.

INT. MOONLIGHT NIGHT CLUB - BOTTLE STORE - DAY
One of the youth picks up Bruce from the floor like a baby and makes him sit on the counter.

Bruce notices that there are some other guys who were sitting in the bottle store getting up to join their comrades. They tear off his shirt.

Pov on his t-shirt which is written ‘Espana’.

The ZANU PF look at each other this is not what they were expecting.
YOUTH #1
But he is a member of MDC. Her
neighbor has reported to the base.
She saw his MDC t-shirt on the line
at his house.

Trevor approaches them.

GADZO
Let him go.

Bruce Jumps of the counter and lands on the floor. He looks
at the guys and makes his way to the exit bumping into
Trevor.

TREVOR
Are you Okay?

BRUCE
There was a misunderstanding.

INT. STREETS-SHIRT - DAY

MDC people barricading roads.

NARRATOR
In the immediate aftermath of a "stay-away" organized by the MDC on
April 15, in protest of the delay in the release of the presidential
election results

INT. STATE HOUSE - DAY

The President is with the his cabinet including the ARMY
GENERAL CONSTANTINO CHIWENGA, ZDF Major General SIBUSISO MOYO
Commander Zimbabwe National Army GENERAL PHILLIP VALERIO
SIBANDA, the Air Force of Zimbabwe Commander Air Marshal
PERRANCE SHIRI, Police Commissioner AUGUSTINE CHIHURI and
Deputy Commissioner CHARITY CHARAMBA

THE PRESIDENT
We have taken this country by
violent and by violent we shall
rule it. I order you guys to assign
some troops around the city with
immediate effect and teach those
Tsvangirai people some lessons
okay.

The generals remain quiet looking at him.
GENERAL CHIWENGWA
But you will be abolishing state power. We should consolidate national defence and protect people’s interest.

THE PRESIDENT
I’m the chief army command remember. Tsvangirai is bound to struggle desperately against us and we must never regard him lightly. If we don’t stop him now we shall commit the gravest mistakes. It looks like he will struggle to last ditch; He will continue engaging mass demonstration and create disturbances in various ways and will try everyday and every minute to stage a comeback. We must stop him now go and do what I have said.

EXT. MABVUKU - EVENING
An army TRUCK screeches to halt. Soldiers in military regalia and some in police uniform jumps out and attacks everyone at the shopping center including vendors and children.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - EVENING
Bruce is and his parents are watching TV. His FATHER is a middle aged man. The door swing open and Winfield rushes in with tears on her face. She has also been assaulted by the soldiers.

MOTHER
Are you okay?

BRUCE
Jesus! Who has done this to you?

WINFIELD
The solders and the police are assaulting people because of the stay away.

BRUCE
Can elections be possible under these conditions?
(MORE)
With communities so traumatized, can they freely participate in an election and celebrate the freedom and independence to elect leaders of their choice? Can we not change the mentality of our leaders and their political parties to realize that power resides in the ordinary citizens of this country?

INT. STATE HOUSE'S CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

The President, in shirtsleeves ZANU PF regalia, paces at the head of the table, very, very alone. All eyes are on him.

THE PRESIDENT
No. No. No. There is more than one option here. If one isn't occurring to us, it's because we haven't thought hard enough. We should consider for re-election than to allow Tsvangirai to rule our country comrades. I would rather take the gun and start war again. We don't want to lose what we have invested, our farms our business and our mansions. They are our children's heritage and the next generation to come after.

The room remains silent a few beats. Most ministers respectfully nod their heads.

Mugabe begins again.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
While the preparation for the runoff is being made. We will intimidate people and instill a lot of fear so that during the runoff people won't vote or will vote ZANU-PF. We will use civilians to fight against civilians while will be sitting in offices. We will engage the embezzlers, swindlers, arsonist, murders, criminals’ gangs and other scoundrels. We pour out money and weapons to do the job. We will provide war veterans and ZANU-PF supporters with guns, transportation and bases

BRUCE (CONT'D)
With communities so traumatized, can they freely participate in an election and celebrate the freedom and independence to elect leaders of their choice? Can we not change the mentality of our leaders and their political parties to realize that power resides in the ordinary citizens of this country?
INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - NIGHT

Bruce and his family are watching TV.

NARRATOR
After the recount and the verification of the results, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission announced on 2 May that Tsvangirai won 47.9% of the vote and Mugabe 43.2%, necessitating a run-off, which was to be held on 27 June 2008.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MUZARABANI - MORNING

JAMES NYAKARIZI MDC supporter is working on his garden. A group of ZANU PF youths and war veterans approaches him armed with iron bars and sticks.

NARRATOR
The campaign of violence and repression in Zimbabwe was aimed at destroying opposition and ensuring that Robert Mugabe has returned as president in runoff elections on June 27, 2008.

JAMES tries to run for his life. The group chased him down the river.

He pauses on the edge of the river as she sees some crocodiles in the sun.

The group reaches on him.

LEADER
You wanted to run away because you know your crime.

They grip and pull him in into the forest.

LEADER (CONT’D)
We know you voted MDC so now we shall proceed to punish you. You must know that in the coming runoff election no one will vote for MDC in the entire Muzarabani area. We want you to shows us where other MDC supporters are?
JAMES
No, I don’t know them.

They start to beat him with sticks and iron bars till he lies flat on the ground with bloodied face.

EXT. MT DARWIN - DAY

Villagers are gathering at the school.

NARRATOR
The violence was been particularly concentrated in former rural strongholds of ZANU-PF-areas that to the party's shock voted for the MDC in the parliamentary and first-round presidential elections. It was a clear objective within government-supporting circles, the operation was been dubbed Operation Makavhoterapapi? Operation Where Did You Put Your Vote?

A ZANU PF CHAIRMAN is threatening people at the gathering.

CHAIRMAN
All MDC members in Mt. Darwin must be made to disappear, we are busy training our youths to do just that. MDC people surrender and rejoin ZANU-PF because we are going to vote again. If you don't, we know you, and will come for you. We will never be ruled by Tsvangirai. We want people to come forward and confess about their links and association with the MDC and surrender to ZANU PF. This is what we want.

No one goes forward.

CHAIRMAN (CONT’D)
This community needs to be taught a lesson. It needs re-education.

After a brief pause one of the ZANU-PF youths grabs a 76-year-old woman and made her lie in front of the crowd on her stomach.

ZANU YOUTH
We will beat this woman if people don't come forward.
They start beating her with logs on her buttocks.

   MAN’S VOICE
   Stop it please.

Three men came forward.

   MEN
   We are MDC.

EXT. MT DARWIN - POLICE STATION - LATER

The Chairman with his youth walk to the police beating a 3 M
The MDC men’s clothes are torn and they are bleeding heavily.

He hand them over to the police officer.

   CHAIRMAN
   Go and fix these MDC members for
   the next 21 days, beat them till
   they reveal all their plans about
   betraying the country.

EXT. RUSAPE - NIGHT

An MDC transporter blindfolded by his shirt is being dragged
to a waiting truck by solders.

They take him into their truck.

The Transporter kneels down lifting up his hands. The solder
surround him and unzips their uniforms and urinate at him
laughing

EXT. RURAL ROAD - NIGHT

The truck is driving down the empty road.

EXT. BUSH - NIGHT

The truck pulls in the bush. The MDC transporter is dragged
out.

CU As they beat him using batons and chains, all over his
body, hands, on the soles of his feet, on buttocks,
 everywhere and the chains rips flesh from her body and left
open wounds.

He is bleeding profusely.
SOLDER
We are beating you because you belong to MDC and you used your lorry to ferry MDC supporters to rallies in this area. Kneel down and pray that you are repenting.

The Transporter kneels down lifting up his hands. The solders surrounds him, unzips their uniforms and urinate at him laughing.

SOLDER (CONT'D)
Now you are baptized for re-admittance into ZANU-PF, your sins are forgiven.

They removed the handcuffs and left me in the bush, still with the blindfold on.

EXT. UZUMBA - NIGHT
A village hut by the side of the road.
A mixed group of war veterans approached the hut with the village headman who is also a "war veteran." Three of the war veterans are armed with AK-47 guns
They forces their way into the hut and they drags a young MAN, his MOTHER and his WIFE from the hut.
They marche with them down nearby bush.

EXT. ZANU PF BASE - NIGHT
A small hut with a ZANU PF flag.
The man, his mother and his wife and two other men are being tortured with thick wooden sticks, open palms, clenched fists and booted.

VILLAGE CHIEF
Your particular crime is that you have a radio at your place and other villagers were coming to your home to listen to Studio 7 Voice of America program which airs in Zimbabwe and to listen to election results and this is your crime.

He looks at the other two men.
VILLAGE CHIEF (CONT’D)
You people have sold the country to white people, now we are beating you to cleanse you, after this you must repent and apologize because our country cannot go to UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

INT. ZANU PF BASE - HUT - LATER

The young man, his mother, wife and the other two men are lying prone on their stomach, tied the legs of the victims and handcuffed their hands.

EXT. ZANU PF BASE - NIGHT

The ZANU PF youths and war veterans are sitting around a huge fire singing.

Another group of less than 20 men approaches them armed also.

The war veterans and the ZANU PF youth confront the new group.

VILLAGE CHIEF
Sit down please and tells us what you want.

GROUP MEMBER #1
No, we don’t have that time. We had come to seek the release of our colleagues.

The man is strong and no one dares to stop him as he makes his way across to the hut.

INT. ZANU PF BASE - HUT - NIGHT

The man begins to untie women first.

There is a gunshot outside which frightens everyone.

CUT TO:
EXT. ZANU PF BASE - NIGHT

The other MDC members who were left outside are threatened and some are running away for their lives with the ZANU PF youth storming after them while some fight with the remaining ones.

CUT TO:

EXT. ZANU PF BASE - HUT - NIGHT

The man had just finished untying everyone. He leads the hostage out of the hut and one of the war veterans saw them and pulls up the trigger.

Two of the man colleagues are shot. The one in the thigh and the other in the calf.

The young man holds her mother and his wife to flee with them.

Her mother is shot in the stomach.

THE YOUNG MAN
Go I will come with mother.

THE WOMAN
No, I can’t leave you.

THE YOUNG MAN
I said go don’t be stupidity.

The young woman disappears in the darkness. The young man carries her mother and runs away with her.

The hero who has rescued them is caught by another war vet and began to beat him- with iron bars; one blow is delivered in his left arm.

His arm SNAPS it is broken.

The man groans and his bone is protruding through the skin but he forces himself to run away.

EXT. DUST ROAD - MORNING

We see a truck moving slowly limited its speed by the rough road with holes.
INT. TRUCK - MORNING

The young man, his wife and other MDC crew are going to the hospital.

Her mother is alive but her bleeding is too much. The young man hold her mother’s head in his lap, she is in great pain. She asks him for a glass of water. He gives her just a few drops, then she begin to roll her eyes.

The OLD MAN in the truck nods his head.

OLD MAN
She is gone.

NARRATOR
The violent claimed thousands of victims.

EXT. MABVUKU ROAD - EVENING

Bruce walking with Beatrice downs the road.

Isuzu screeches to halt. Two GUYS approach him and one of them pointed him a gun. Abductor #1 forces Bruce into the passenger seat in front. He's positioned directly behind him -- the gun at his head. Abductor #2 gets on the driver's sit and drives away.

Beatrice runs home crying.

EXT. ACTURAS ROAD - EVENING

The Isuzu is moving slowly as because there are two trucks ahead of it loaded with cement ahead and have forced traffic to slow to the 40's.

INT. ISUZU - EVENING

Bruce realizes traffic is slowing. He's got to act now. He uses all the force in his legs and all his body weight to slam the seat back -- straight into his abductor #2's face.

The impact is quick and violent. He's struck in the nose and forehead and propelled backwards.

The abductor #1 has a firm grip on Bruce whose elbows him, stunning him.
EXT. ACTURAS ROAD - EVENING

The door the Isuzu's car is flung open. Bruce jumps...

ANGLE ON BRUCE'S BODY

Hitting the surface of the freeway and rolling into the grass.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - EVENING

His father, mother and sister are having supper. There is a knock on the door.

WINFIELD

Come in.

The door fling open and Beatrice walks in. She takes a sit and begins to sobs surprising Bruce’s parents.

MOTHER

Win who is she?

WINFIELD

She is Bruce’s girlfriend.

BEATRICE

They got him.

MOTHER

Who some men. They forced him in the car and drive away.

CLOSE SHOT - FATHER

as his mouth tightens. His air of placidity vanishes, leaving his features disturbed.

CLOSE SHOT - WINFIELD

Her fine young face stiffens almost imperceptibly. Her eyes are coated with a vague emptiness.

MOTHER (CONT’D)

Oh, no my son is going to be killed. Have you heard what she said? These must be ZANU people and they won’t spare him.

There is quiet and she started sobbing too.
WINFIELD
We must go to the police and make a report.

MOTHER
How is this going to help if they are the ones who are being used to abduct and kill our children? I told him to stay away from politics but he couldn't listen to me. Oh my dear son he won't come back alive.

A phone rings silencing the house. They all look at each other afraid to answer it. Could it carry a message of death?

WINFIELD
Halo

BRUCE (O.S.)
Hi

WINFIELD
Bruce

CLOSE SHOT - BEATRICE
as she sits in surprise watching Winfield talking on the phone. Her jaw droops with the slackness of fear

BRUCE
Yes.

MOTHER
Give me that phone I want to talk with him. Bruce!

INTERCUT

Bruce at harvest’s house offices.

BRUCE
Yes mom. I’m okay

MOTHER
What have they done to you? Where have they taken you?

BRUCE
They done me nothing and they have taken me nowhere?
MOTHER
So they just let you go without
harming you

BRUCE
No, I have runway. But I’m safe now
I’m at the MDC house, well
protected but don’t tell anyone and
don’t stop filing my missing report
because I’m still at large with
them especially after I have
escaped.

EXT. STREET - MORNING

Beatrice is stand still and watches Faith running across the
street and disappearing into the school compound.

As she turns around she nearly bumped into Bruce who is
putting on a hood jacket.

BEATRICE
Bruce, you’re here, you’re here. I
can’t believe it.

BRUCE
Yes.

He drags through a gape of a wall into the school private
ground which is opposite the school. He leans forward slowly
to kiss her, but Beatrice pulls back.

BEATRICE
But why you didn’t tell me you are
a politician?

BRUCE
Because I’m not. I write articles
that got to do with our country
current affairs.

BEATRICE
Then why do they have to abduct
you. Why are they in need of your
life?

BRUCE
Because I’m a writer who writes
true articles about democracy, true
motivating stories about situation
in my country, to change our
country for a better government.
BEATRICE
I heard you escaped I was in your house when you made that call.

BRUCE
I’m sorry I couldn’t call you. They take my phone and the only number that was in my head is my home land line.

BEATRICE
So what are you going to do?

BRUCE
I’m away to Botswana. The party has given me authorised papers to find shelter at refugee camp there.

BEATRICE
When will you return, please tell me it shall be soon. Will it be soon?

BRUCE
I don’t know

BEATRICE

BRUCE
I cannot. Till maybe Mugabe is no longer in power.

BEATRICE
Will you ever be back? Ever return to me?

BRUCE
N matter the hell I will come back for you.

Bruce looks into Beatrice’s eyes she could not see hope, only tears coming hot and fast down her face.

BEATRICE
There’s always a chance, Bruce.

BRUCE
Right. But will there be a tomorrow, and the next day, and the next?
BEATRICE
(whispering to him)
And I want to see you tomorrow, and
the next day, and the next day...

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION - LIVING ROOM

We see PHOTOS of Grace from her wedding day, children's photos, a girl and two boys and The President's photo.

NARRATOR
In those days Grace was out of politics and better known for her spending habits. When her son and a colleague imported two Rolls-Royce Wraith cars into Zimbabwe duty-free there was a backlash that even spilled into parliament with opposition politicians saying it was spending of state funds in reckless abandon and not paying duty for the cars demonstrated abuse of power.

We see a montage of...

Grace buying mansions in South Africa
Grace buying rare diamond jewelry
Grace buying Rolls-Royce limousines for her playboy sons.

EXT. HONG KONG - FIVE STAR HOTEL - DAY

Grace Mugabe is in the hotel lobby having lunch.

A British JOURNALIST and her friend LADY approach her.

JOURNALIST
Hi Mrs. Mugabe, are you enjoying your stay?

Grace looked stunned.

FIRST LADY
Mind your own business. Security!

LADY FRIEND
No, this can’t be Mrs. Mugabe.
EXT. FIVE STAR HOTEL - LATER

The British Journalist is waiting outside like a predator waiting for its prey with her lady friend.

Grace steps out of the hotel she sees the British Journalist trying to take a picture of her and she lost her temper.

    FIRST LADY
    Attack him.

The journalist packs his camera and tries to run away.

The body guards runs after him. They grab and wrestle with him and attempts to take his camera.

The First Lady advances while the bodyguards hold him. She beat him and punches him repeatedly.

    FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
    Don’t ever dare to follow me again.

She walks turns and walks away the bodyguards set him free and joins The First Lady.

The lady friend comes to his friend running.

    LADY FRIEND
    Are you okay?

CLOSE SHOT ON THE JOURNALIST

As he had suffers from numerous cuts, bruises and abrasions to his head and face caused by the diamond rings on the First Lady’s fingers.

Three or four large bodyguards appear from the hotel and try to approach the journalist. But they are stopped by SECURITY OFFICERS at Tsim Sha Tsui Centre near the hotel.

FADE TO:

EXT. PLUM TREE BOARDER - DAY

It's a busy afternoon. People are milling around, vendors selling food and Busses parking on the rank.
NARRATOR
More than 3,000 people are known to have fled the violence and are now internally displaced in cities and towns throughout the country with inadequate access to food and water. An unknown number have fled across the borders to Mozambique, Botswana and South Africa. Some attempted to enter illegal by jumping the boarder through dangerous routes because they had no time of processing legal documents. However, some were raped, robbed and killed.

EXT. PLUM TREE - BUSH ROAD - NIGHT
A Toyota Hiace pauses in the dust road. The boarder jumps get out with their luggage. 5 or 6 female and one of them is 8 months pregnant, and 8 males include Bruce. They are being lead by two SMUGGLERS. Bruce is only carrying a satchel.

One of the smugglers is large and leanly muscular, yet his college looms over him like a battleship. He is a gross behemoth of a man, with sharp flinty eyes the size of glistening pinpoints and a slack, oversized jaw.

The Toyota Hiace left.

SMUGGLER #1
This way.

They cut a weedy path.

INT. TOYOTA HIACE
The DRIVER takes his phone and makes a call.

DRIVER
I have just left them on the 23.

INT. BUSH - NIGHT LATER
The two smugglers are in front leading the way.

MALE BOARDER JUMPER #
So how long is it to reach to the fence?
SMUGGLER #2
10 km

MALE BOARDER JUMPER #2
Jesus we are going to have a long walk.

As they walk suddenly they encounter a group of ROBBERS who are armed with all sorts of weapons.

SMUGGLER #1
Guys let man be man and woman be man use all you got to fight for the sake of your life.

ROBBER’S LEADER
Hold on there.

SMUGGLER #2
Stay away from us these are my people.

ROBBER’S LEADER
I’m in charge here. This is my territory.

He advance to them while the boarder jumpers crowded behind the Smugglers like chicks tries to hide themselves under their mother’s wings.

The robber’s leader draws a pistol and points it at Smuggler #2. He keeps the gun leveled on him.

ROBBER’S LEADER (CONT’D)
You will have to follow my order now. Attack guys!

He fires a SHOT in the air.

His gang advances at the boarder jumpers assaulting and looting their things.

One of the gang knocks Bruce on a jaw and pulls his satchel away from him.

Another man holds the young beautiful girl PAIDA and drags her out of the crowd.

Women SCREAM while men GROAN.

Smuggler #2 reaches for the pistol and the two man wrestles for the gun.
SMUGGLER #2
Run away I got his pistol.

Now the male boarder jumpers start to fight back. Women try to run away for a cover.

Bruce rushes to where Paida has been taken.

Paida struggles out from under the man. Just as she gets free, Bruce knocks the man in the head with a stone and blood soon his face is red with blood.

The Smuggler #2 wins the pistol and fires at the leader hitting him twice into his chest. He stares in disbelief at the blood rushing out of him then at the Smuggler, as if trying to link the two. He slumps to the ground and opens his mouth to scream ...

His gang runs away.

THUG #2
Hey people where are you? It’s over you can come now.

The boarder jumper begins to gather some bleeding. They have all sorts of cuts around their body and some have swollen faces.

Bruce’s clothes are torn from thorns and he has some brushes.

SMUGGLER #1
Are you all here?

There is a silence.

SMUGGLER #2
Just check guys and see who is not with us. You all knew each other.

SMUGGLER #1
I’m sorry guys that’s driver is devil he set us up.

FEMALE BOARDER JUMPER
That pregnant woman is missing.

They heard a female crying a distance then silence. They are all scared.

The Smuggler #2 tosses the pistol.

SMUGGLER #2
Stay here. You look after them I got to find her.
They hear the crouching of the leaves and all looks on one direction.

Close up

The pregnant woman drags herself and the two other WOMAN rushes to help her she sobs.

    WOMAN #1
    Are you okay?

    PREGNANT WOMAN
    Yes.

    WOMAN #2
    Did they harm you?

In the look of her eyes it shows something worse had happened to her but she is ashamed to say it.

    PREGNANT WOMAN
    No.

EXT. BUSH - DAWN

All is quiet in the jungle. The smuggler continues leading the border jumpers down a railway line. They reached at the fence. There are three rows of fences. One is at Zimbabwe side, the middle one is on no man’s land and the third one is for Botswana side.

    SMUGGLER
    Finally here we are. Once you are in Botswana side you are now safe. You only have to avoid the police and the solders. Do you know your way forward?

    BOARDER JUMPERS
    Yes.

    MALE BOARDER JUMPER #1
    How many who are using Francis Town way.

All of them rises their hands expect Bruce and Paida.

    MALE BOARDER JUMPER
    I will lead the way. I have my cousin with a commuter omnibus he will meet us at the Masunga Turn off.
SMUGGLER
Good luck guys safe journey.

He looks at the pregnant woman

SMUGGLER (CONT’D)
Wish you good lucky.

EXT. BOTSWANA SIDE – MORNING

An army patrolling car is moving on the dust road by the side of the railway line. The leader of the border jumpers notices it and he signals his team to creeps in the bush.

EXT. BOTSWANA SIDE – LATER

They are sitting sharing the little food what have left on them.

PAIDA
Where are you going?

BRUCE
Any place safe for me. Home is not home when there is no peace. Home is not sweet when brothers kill one another for power and money. I understand now why people become refugees.

PAIDA
Do you have any relatives in Botswana?

BRUCE
No.

PAIDA
Since you have saved my life we will go with you to Masunga. I hope my sister won’t mind to stay with you till you find your own place.

The pregnant woman begins to sob again.

Woman #1 holds her.

WOMAN #1
It’s now okay you are now safe.

PREGNANT WOMAN
They have rapped me.
She breaks into a cry.

PREGNANT WOMAN (CONT’D)
They took turns to rape me. How am I going to face my husband?

Bruce cries, Paida cries everyone feels pity for her.

EXT. MASUNGA - NIGHT
A BIG village. Bruce and Paida are standing under a huge tree at the shops. A young woman around thirties approaches them. She is ROSE, Paida’s sister.

Paida and Rose hug each other. Paida drags her sister away and talks with her then comes back to Bruce.

PAIDA
This is Bruce. Bruce meets my sister Rose.

ROSE
Hi Bruce.

BRUCE
Hi Rose.

ROSE
Well Bruce I don’t have a big house but I will be able to help you with accommodation. Thanks for saving my young sister.

They walk down the road and reaches at a compound with a cabin.

INT. ROSE’S COTTAGE - NIGHT
Nothing much in this room a BED, pots a cabinet and a radio and two suitcases with clothes and other female stuff.

Bruce sits on the stool while the girls on the bed

BRUCE
So Rose do you have your papers?

ROSE
No, I use the same route but I was lucky not to come across robbers.
BRUCE
I advise you to use passports guys.
You live once and die once.

INT. ROSE’S COTTAGE - NIGHT LATER
Bruce is sleeping on the floor and the girls on the mattress.

CUT TO:

EXT. MASUNGA - DAY - VARIOUS SHOTS
Bruce weeding a compound.
Bruce cultivating a garden.
Bruce making a goat’s kraal.
Bruce mixing cement and sand for the builder.
Bruce cutting a big log into pieces for firewood.

INT. BRUCE’S HUT - NIGHT
Bruce has now moves to stay on his own. Nothing much in his hut a carpet, two blankets piled on a corner a paraffin stove and a dish, pot, plate cup knife and a spoon.

He is cooking meat.

CUT TO:

EXT. MASUNGA - MORNING
Bruce is walking in the village carrying a hoe looking for work as he walks along. He feels the eyes of everyone following him, glaring at him. He halts, looks around. The townspeople continue to eye him brazenly, yet with an almost animal incuriosity

He is almost unrecognizable: a forty day beard, uncombed greasy hair, bloodshot eyes, rumpled clothes and an exhausted, faraway look.

BRUCE’S VOICE
Life in the village of Masunga is tight like its name Masunga. It needed the prayer of the lord to open doors.
EXT. RURAL AREA - DAY

People are voting, they are all standing in queue lifting the slogan of ZANU PF.

They are really scared of bullet for each.

NARRATOR
The re-run was done and people in rural areas were forced to go and cast their votes in favour of ZANU PF. While in Harare...

CUT TO:

EXT. MABVUKU - PRIMARY SCHOOL

The voting is in process but it is abandoned.

NARRATOR
Most people sabotage to re-vote. Tsvangirai had refused to participate for the fear of the lives of his members his name was still in the box. So President Mugabe was running a race without a competitor.

EXT. PARLIAMENT - DAY

Professor parks his car. He gets out and walks. He bumps into crocodile.

CROCODILE
Congratulate for coming back to parliament as an Independent candidate.

Professor refuses to shake hand with Crocodile

PROFESSOR
You never dare to support me and after all that effort I have done for your sake to be the Vice president. You almost killed my political career. You fail to protect people who were supporting you in the purge that followed the Tsholotsho Declaration.

He walks away.
EXT. SHOP BUILDING - DAY

The Tanzanian pastor we see preaching is sitting alone on a corner reading a bible.

Bruce steps in and he ushers him a sit across to him.

PASTOR
Hi my Brother.

BRUCE
Afternoon pastor.

PASTOR
You had any peace job today.

BRUCE
Today it was tight.

PASTOR
Do you know how to play a keyboard?

BRUCE
No.

PASTOR
The church is planning to buy a keyboard and I’m looking for someone also who can teach me.

BRUCE
Oh, that’s good. Instruments will also attract more people closer.

PASTOR
What about singing? You see our church is full of women and even in the praise and worship team there are ladies. I think if we have also have men in the team that will be great.

BRUCE
I had a passion to sing but my voice is bad.

PASTOR
Do you know one thing my brother? If you can talk you can sing.

BRUCE
You are right when I’m by myself I sing for myself.
He takes a plastic bag with clothes and shoes.

PASTOR
This is for you from church members.

EXT. MASUNGA - DAY

Bruce seems to enjoy the luxury of being alone. He dressing smart with a nice hair cut holding some exercise book going to his place.

The happiness on his face attracted the WOMAN h passes. He is sure of his writing talent and. The world is waiting for him, all he need is money.

INT. BRUCE’S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Bruce is now renting a better cottage by himself. There is electricity.

In his room there is a single bed and stove and a wardrobe.

He is sitting on bed writing. There is a pile of book of exercise books.

WIDE SHOT in cottage behind Bruce. We slowly DOLLY back.

BRUCE (V.O.)
I’m thinking about you baby. I’m all alone by day but when It comes night I’m with you in my dream. We will be together in a faraway kingdom.

CU of the poem being written over the WIDE SHOT.

BRUCE (V.O.)
I’ll be the king and you will be the queen in that realm. While I’m having this dream, I know I’m also a party of your sweet dream.

ECU of Bruce, mouthing the words as he writes.

INT. NATIONAL SPORT STADIUM - DAY

TM is being sworn in as Prime Minister. MRS. TSVANGIRAI is also at her husband's side.
NARRATOR
To end to the partisan violence and human rights violations The Government of National Unity was formed on 13 February 2009 following the inaugurations of Morgan Tsvangirai as Prime Minister.

Another ANGLE
CU First Lady who is in a lurid leopard skin dress.

EXT. SOUTH ROAD - DAY

TM motorcade is speeding down the road. TM car is in the lead. The security cars are following.

ANOTHER ANGLE

A freight truck travelling in the opposite direction.

BUM!

TM’s car is hit with the truck

CUT TO:

EXT. MASUNGA - EARLY MORNING

Bruce with a hole on his shoulder is going to a field where he is doing a part time job in a dust road.

The solders and constables appear from the bush.

CONSTABLE
(in Batswana)
Hey fellow come over here.

SOLDER
Where is your passport?

BRUCE
I lost my documents.

CLAP.

Bruce falls down and the solders begin to assault him.

CUT TO:
EXT. BOTSWANA BOARDER - CELL - DAY

Dozens of men and a few women are packed into the one room. Among them is Bruce. Some heavy been nabbed by the Botswana Police during raid in different locations and some have just handed themselves on their free will to immigration officer that they may be granted gate pass to leave Botswana.

BRUCE
Anyone with news from Home guys?

MAN
Oh yes, Tsvangirai had an accident which killed his wife yesterday at the sport.

BRUCE
But it’s last month he was sworn in as Prime Minister. This is not a genuine accident.

WOMAN
These are the evil acts of a few individuals bent on derailing the progress of the Inclusive government.

YOUNG LADY
Lot of Robert Mugabe's opponents died in suspicion road accidents involving army trucks.

WOMAN
There are also questions about why Mr Tsvangirai's security detail had failed to prevent the crash. These guys are supposed to travel in a cavalcade and the prime minister's car is never in the lead, its police or a dummy car.

A door swing open and two Botswana immigration officers enter, beautiful LADY with a light complexion and a handsome MAN.

MALE OFFICER
Get up and get all your things time to go home.

The illegal migrants collect their things.
EXT. BOTSWANA BORDER - DAY

Bruce and other illegal immigrant struggle with their luggage as they walk to the immigrant deportation van.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MABVUKU - MORNING

A Toyota Hiace comes to halt at a bus stop.

The door slide open. Bruce steps out with few luggages. He looks around and crosses the road entering in his street shooting down the street as Bruce slowly walks down the STREET. Not a person has moved, each eye is glued on him as if he is a STRANGER.

EXT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - MORNING

Bruce's mother is cleaning the yard. She recognizes him. She quickly stops what she is doing and rushes to meet him. They hug.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Bruce is sitting on the couch having tea. His parents are sitting across from him

MOTHER
All is well now. Tsvangirai and Mugabe have joined to form one government. No more killing one another.

BRUCE
I’ve quitted politics now. You will suffer and always continue suffering while the leaders are enjoying the life.

EXT. BRUCE’S HOUSE LATER

Winfield is watering some flowers. Bruce approaches her.

BRUCE
I’m missing someone.

Winfield laughs.
WINFIELD
Beatrice.

BRUCE
How is she?

WINFIELD
Her boss moved out one month after you left, but there are some rumors that she was married.

A BEAT.

WINFIELD (CONT’D)
She couldn’t wait for you.

BRUCE
She had done what is right to her. I’m the one who’s to blame. I was coward I moved out of her life. I never phoned her because I could not manage to buy a phone. It was the biggest mistake of my life. You know how much I used to think of her every night.

Tears begin to fall down his cheek.

WINFIELD
I’m so sorry.

BRUCE
I need one chance to see her and apologies. I would be happy to see that she is living happily. I wanted our story to have a happy ending.

EXT. SHOPS – DAY

Bruce is wondering around. He bumps into Gadzo.

GADZO
Comrade.

They hug each other.

GADZO (CONT’D)
I’m glad to see you.

BRUCE
Me too.
GADZO
Who says politics it's a dirty game
was right. They made us fight one
another. A brother killing another
brother look today where is we now?
Whoever imagined that these two
leaders will work in hands one day?

BRUCE
I don't think politics is a dirty
game. It's a smart game but the
player who plays it is the ones who
are dirty. Let bygone be bygone.

He taps him on the shoulder and walks away.

EXT. ROSELYN HOUSE - DAY

Bruce walks down the street. He bumps into the typist coming
from a shop with her lunch.

TYPIST
Hey you?

BRUCE
Oh, how is it.

TYPIST
I'm good long time. How is
Hollywood?

BRUCE
I was in Botswana. I went for a
refuge.

TYPIST
You coward.

BRUCE
I can admit that. Life is important
you live once and you die once.

TYPIST
So what are you writing now days?

BRUCE
Film scripts.

TYPIST
Great! Is there any one of your
movie which have been made?
BRUCE
No, I don't write for local. I'm trying to become an International script writer and end up in America.

TYPIST
Oh. I see just because you are called Bruce and you have trained karate you think you can become like Bruce Lee. Or you think you think you gonna be fame like Bruce Willis. You and Tsvangirai you are dreamers. Tsvangirai thinks that he can become the president of Zim and you think you can go to Hollywood.

INT. ROSELYN HOUSE - SERVANTS 'S QUARTERS - DAY

Trevor’s wife NYARADZO is cleaning in the house. The cottage is divided into two by huge curtain, the other side being used as both living room and kitchen while the other. There is a knock on the door.

NYARADZO
Come in.

Bruce walks in.

NYARADZO (CONT’D)
Oh, it’s you. When did you come back.

BRUCE
Last week. How are you?

NYARADZO
I’m good. How was Botswana?

BRUCE
Home is best. How is my friend Trevor.

NYARADZO
He is in. You can through and see him. He is sleeping.

BRUCE
Is not feeling well?
NYARADZO
Yes. The side were his ribs have broken is swelling and he is having a great pain. The doctors can't do anything to repair the ribs. We are opting to go to South Africa for his treatment.

BRUCE
Jesus.

He walks across to what is the bedroom. Trevor is lying asleep but groaning in pain. Bruce sits on the bed next to him. Hold his hand.

TREVOR
My man you're back.

BRUCE
So the injury is keeping developing.

TREVOR
Yes. I'm experiencing an internal pain man. And outside is swollen.

BRUCE
Maybe if you go to South they may be able to treat you.

INT. PRESIDENT’S OFFICE – DAY
Professor is facing The President.

THE PRESIDENT
I accept your request to come back to the party. After all I will be proud to have one of our sit in parliament restored.

PROFESSOR
Thank you.

INT. PARLIAMENT – LOO – DAY
Crocodile is washing his hands the door swing open and Professor steps in.

CROCODILE
Welcome back the mastermind of the Tsholotsho Declaration. So what have you got this time?
PROFESSOR
Wait and see because I’m back for you. The same manner I was thrown out of the party is the same manner everyone who has contributed to my downfall is going to be cast out.

CROCODILE
Wow! Here comes professor.

EXT. SOLOMON MUJURU’S FARM HOUSE - NIGHT

AN EXPLOSION tears the house apart like a pile of matchsticks!

NARRATOR
The Vice President’s husband died, allegedly in a fire, at his farm in Beatrice in 2011. Many politically neutral Zimbabweans, and even some Zanu-PF supporters, believe Mujuru was murdered, and the speculation became so intense that his widow, Vice-President Joice Mujuru, had to appeal for calm. His family’s request to have his remains exhumed and re-examined in a second postmortem by a South African pathologist were turned down. In his report, the director of Zimbabwe’s forensic science laboratory said there were indications that Mujuru had died before the fire spread to the room in which his remains were found.

EXT. STATE HOUSE - DAY

The solders are walking around the compound.

Angle - Street

A Toyota Hiace slows down. And the engine died. It has run out of the fuel. The door on the left side opens and walks out with a jelly cane.

The solders march across to the Toyota Hiace. One opens the drive’s door and orders him to come out.

The solder land him a hard blow.
The other solder approaches the conductor who drops the Jelly cane down and bow down pleading for forgiveness. The solder attacks him and knocks him down. He orders the passengers to come out.

They make them sit the same way they were in the minbus on the ground including the driver. The driver is asked to pretend to drive.

CU ON THE DRIVER

As he moves his hands in air as if he is steering a wheel.

INT. STATE HOUSE – DAY

It’s First Lady’s birthday. The lobby is full with some guest and his cabinet ministers.

A huge cake on the table as The First Lady blows the candles.

NARRATOR
The national unity government ENDS.
There were elections again. Mugabe employed the Israel Company, Nikuv, to corrupt the voters roll so real voters would be denied the vote whilst Zanu PF supporters cast hundred or more votes each. The other second president passed away leaving a vacant again. But this vacant was not much valuable compared to the post of Mai Juru because that was the only post that opens a way to be president successor.

CU on Grace Mugabe.

NARRATOR (CONT’D)
And to the First Lady it was a time for her to fly higher.

EXT. STATE HOUSE – BEDROOM – NIGHT

The President is lying on the bed, face down – as the First Lady working long strokes over his body – her hands gracefully LENGTHENING and STRETCHING her muscles. The President is enjoying the massage.

THE PRESIDENT
You have everything you need in your life.

(MORE)
THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
Today I couldn’t find a special present for you. Do you have any one good wish that I may do for you as a party of my gift?

FIRST LADY
Yes. When right comes for you to resign Mr. President I want you to leave me in your office.

Grace reaches her hands all the way down his spine and makes

THE PRESIDENT
Are you serious Grace you want to be my successor. But that will be possible Grace and it can be long journey.

Grace sits next to him - then reaches out - takes his hand and starts a slow seductive massage as if she is doing to a young man - we see Mugabe visibly relax.

FIRST LADY
But as long you stand by me like what Mujuru does it will work out. You see how he pushed for his wife to be the vice president and how he was trying to make you step down that she may be the president because she is already in line to be president after you. She is plotting to kill you. She must be baby dumped with her allies.

THE PRESIDENT
Even if we can fire Mujuru today you can’t fit in.

FIRST LADY
But there is one man who can be a challenge to you. One man who many people is expecting him to be my successor. If we fire Joyce Mujuru obvious many provinces will vote for him and prefer the other post for the late vice president to be given to woman.

THE PRESIDENT
But there is one man who can be a challenge to you. 
(MORE)
THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
One man whom many people have expected to be my successor and if we fire Joyce Mujuru obvious many provinces will vote for him and prefer the other post for the late vice president to be given to woman.

FIRST LADY
You mean Mnangagwa.

THE PRESIDENT
Yes.

FIRST LADY
We will use the team Tsholotsho Declaration to move Mai Majuru as if we are opening the way for Mnangagawa then we can eliminate him gain and use the constitution that politburo amend that one of the two VP must be a woman.

The couple lay side by side.

EXT. HARARE AIR PORT - DAY

An Air Zimbabwe is towed by in the background, a MAN strides at us. PHELEKEZELA MPHOKO, 70s. He wears dark sunglasses, carries a well-worn leather bag. He is tall and strong. He looks around and smiles.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSON - SITTING ROOM - LATER

Where The First Lady is flipping through TV channels; Sky News, CNN, etc... President and Mphoko, meanwhile, enter behind her. She clicks it off, looks back at them.

FIRST LADY
Mr. Mphoko how are you?

Grace steps over, shakes Mphoko's hand.

MPHOKO
I’m good and how are you?

FIRST LADY
Would you like a drink?

MPHOKO
Thank you. I’m fine.
THE PRESIDENT
I’ve called you to work on a new project. I’m preparing the way for Grace to be the next President.

MPHOKO
Great, there is nothing wrong with that Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT
I want to be Grace’s personal aide; you are going to fill the vacant of the late President that when the time for Grace comes you will play your role.

MPHOKO
Thank you Mr. President. Well we will go over the project details tomorrow. See you tomorrow Mrs. President.

He gets up and walks out of the room.

Grace steps over and kisses her husband on the cheek.

GRACE
Thank you. I feel better now.

INT. MAZOWE - OFFICE - MORNING

Grace, Professor, and Mphoko are having a meeting. Local Government minister SAVIOUR KASUKUWERE.

PROFESSOR
Right now Zanu PF is divided along two main factions, one led by Vice President Joice Mujuru and the other by Justice Minister Emmerson Mnangagwa. We must first destroy the faction of Joice. Then we should come out with our faction that will destroy Mnangagwa.

FIRST LADY
That’s great.
PROFESSOR
Since Mnangagwa allies is made up of war veterans, and the army we need support from women’s and youth’s league. You have to become the secretary of Women’s league.

FIRST LADY
You are right I’ve consider about that with the Mr. Mphoko as well. So our team will be G 40 meaning generation 40.

INT. CROCODILE’S OFFICE - DAY
Crocodile is busy working on the computer knock on the door.

CROCODILE
Come in.

Professor walks in.

CROCODILE (CONT’D)
Mr. Tsholotsho Declaration how is it?

PROFESSOR
I’m good.

CROCODILE
Great. So what you got for me this time. The congress is around the corner and there is a vacant for the vice president.

PROFESSOR
But that one is not important. It’s time to remove Joice Mujuru for you to have your way.

CROCODILE
But how can we get her expelled.

PRESIDENT
Watch and see how I will use the President’s wife. The ghost of Tsholotsho Declaration is back.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT
They all look at their T-shirt and laughs. They have a brand name LACOSTE with a logo of CROCODILE.
MAN
Oh team Lacoste.

They all looks at their T-shirt and laughs. The have a brand name LACOSTE with a logo of CROCODILE.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE - DAY

Graduation ceremony.

We see Grace Mugabe receiving a doctorate in sociology.

NARRATOR
Eyebrows were raised in 2014 when she was given a doctorate in sociology from the University of Zimbabwe just two months after registering at the school. Her academic prowess had previously been unknown. But in Zimbabwe, the path to power is paved with academic letters. It was the time that the world was introduced to hateful, irreverent, indecent and often disgusting public lynching.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION - NIGHT

Graces stands at her mirror still putting the graduation crown she looks into the mirror.

FIRST LADY
Here now comes Grace.

President enters into the frame and stands behind her. He kisses her on the ear.

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
Anyone who was with you in the war and says you must step down because you old must also step down because he is old. I’m going on a national tour campaigning. It is dubbed Meet the People.

INT. MAZOWE - DAY

Grace is having a meeting with the G40.

Professor is writing down some names of Mai Mujuru’s allies.
PROFESSOR
These are Rugare Gumbo, Flora Buka, Ray Kaukonde, Jason Machaya, John Mvundura, Temba Mliswa, Kalisto Gwanetsa and Didymus Mutasa They should be axed ahead of the congress.

PAN AROUND as the group nods their heads.

EXT. MARONDERA - DAY
Grace Mugabe is addressing national rally 'Meet the People'

FIRST LADY
Joice Mujuru is incompetent, corrupt and divisive.

Her tone becomes more personal.

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
She is factionalism and plotting to assassinate President Mugabe and become president.

INT. BAR - NIGHT
Team lacoste is having some beer on their tables with their T-shirts.

MUTSVANZWA
Oh, here comes the door for our man. Cheers!

MAN #1
I don’t want to miss First Lady’s Meet the People’s rally.

MAN #2
She is really coming hot.

INT. HARVEST - HOUSE - MORNING
Tsvangirai and his three officials are having a feasting on the attack of the vice president.

MT
Blame not the speaker but be warned by her words.

(MORE)
Grace is now a factor in the succession stakes but what her precise game plan and ultimate goal remains to be seen.

OFFICIAL #1
The First Family is unpopular and her political capital and knowledge are very low.

OFFICIAL #2
Those who are using her know that too, but she has become very ambitious. Her permanent anger when making speeches revealed that she knows she is going nowhere.

MT
Let them tear each other apart; it's for the good of the majority of toiling people. That's the freedom we have always wanted for our country.

OFFICIAL #1
When ZANU PF tears itself apart after Mugabe dies, the winners will be the ones with most guns.

EXT. HARARE STREETS AERIAL VIEW - DAY
The streets ARE packed with vendors and some have pushing carts.

EXT. HARARE - STREET - DAY
Bruce is now a vendor. He has a cart with some fruits.

Another Angle
A lorry full of Police and Harare Municipality Police screeches to halt.

On noticing them the vendors in the streets packs up their goods and begin to vacate the streets.

The two groups of police jumps from the lorry and attacks the vendors, hitting and taking their goods.

Bruce stands hypnotized. Suddenly one of the Police reaches for him and hit him hard with the stick.
He GROANS as he reels and falls down.

CUT TO:

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE – SITTING ROOM – NIGHT

Bruce and his father are sitting watching TV.

BRUCE
In the designated areas where they want us to go there is no market.

CUT TO:

INT. MAZOWE – DAY

The G40 are having their usual meeting.

PROFESSOR
We must the win also the support from vendors.

EXT. CHITUNGWIZA – DAY

Grace is meeting the people of Chitungwiza.

FIRST LADY
I urge the police to stop harassing struggling vendors. Cops must pay for goods like everyone else instead of organizing raids in order to grab freebies when they ran out of tomatoes at home. Women told me about their vendor marts, the challenges they are facing. They are being chased away like people who are mentally challenged. The police should engage women and talk this thing out.

Grace's harsh vendor issues through the rally. The crowd cheers and she is really winning the vendor’s support.

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
Women are being troubled by your actions of chasing them away whenever they want to sell their goods. Stop doing that. This is not how it's done in business. We have never refused to sell to you.

(MORE)
FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
Pay for the goods because you are paid salaries. Stop chasing away women. Just tell them to operate from market stalls if they are operating at undesignated points.

CUT TO:

EXT. BINDURA - DAY
Mugabe had joined the first lady in Meeting the People tour.

FIRST LADY
Dust will accumulate if a room is not cleaned regularly, our faces will get dirty if they aren’t cleaned regularly. In this congress we are cleaning the dirty in our party. Mujuru must resign or face humiliation at the congress.

CUT TO:

EXT. MASVINGO - DAY
It is the final of 'Meet THE People' rally. It is the President closing up.

THE PRESIDENT
A person with appendicitis is saved when the surgeon removes his appendix. But Joice Mujuru has hid her sickness in fear of treatment so she cannot be saved. She was corrupt and attempted to assassinate me. Mai Mujuru and your supporters we are going to boot you out of the party and government.

EXT. STREET - DAY
CLOSE UP ON A PRESS
‘MUJURU DISMISSED’
Bruce and another vendor are reading the press.

BRUCE
If she was so mischievous and insubordinate for a decade why did the party keep her for so long?
That is how Zanu-PF leader Mugabe works. Mugabe is like a lion after its prey. It watches. It waits. Sometimes the lion even looks as if it is not interested in the prey, lulling it, until it feels that this is the right moment and it pounces and catches its prey when he finally spoke, all hell broke loose.

When Majuru was removed, Grace became head of the ZANU-PF Women's League, giving her a seat at the party's top table. As for the assassination plot, the charge disappeared with no one ever questioned or arrested.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

Bruce is selling some vegetables on a cart at the shops. He is reading the newspaper.

BRUCE (V.O.)
Dr. Grace Mugabe honored in song tilted Dr. G. Mugabe for Women's League Secretary.

INT. MUGABE'S MANSION - BEDROOM - NIGHT

The First Lady and The President are lying awake.

THE PRESIDENT
I will let the Vice President's Post filled by a by appointment and not by an elective process. So that it will be easy to remove Mnangagwa and have your way.

She bent and kisses him on the cheek and switches off the light.

INT. ZANU PF HEAD QUARTERS - DAY

President is addressing the cabinet.
THE PRESIDENT
I appoint Mnangagwa as the VP president.

Professor smiles.

EXT. ZANU PF HEAD QUARTERS – DAY
Crocodile is heading to his car. General Chiwengwa approaches.

GENEREAL CHIWENGWA
Congratulations for being the president of Zim.

CROCODILE
Shh you will get me killed in car accident.

They laugh.

ANGLE – ON GRACE
She looks at them before getting into her car.

NARRATOR
There were curious cases involving attempts on Mnangagwa include the cyanide poisoning of his office on the eve of his appointment as Vice-President in December 2014 that left his private secretary hospitalized. There have also been numerous suspicious break-ins at Mnangagwa's offices that remain unresolved.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION – MORNING
We see Grace eating breakfast.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION – BEDROOM – MORNING
Mugabe is resting. Grace walks in and sits on the bed. He holds his hand.

FIRST LADY
I’m out now honey.

PRESIDENT
Good day. I just need a rest today.
FIRST LADY
See you later.

INT. MAZOWE - DAY

The G40 are gathering for their meeting. They are joined with Ministry of Defence SYDNEY SEKERAMAI. Professor writes names on the board 'MNANGAGWA and CHIWENGA'.

PROFESSOR
These are our new hit list. So it is now Team Lacoste against G40. We must tell President to put the Army General on retire because he is the strongest pillar of Team Lacoste and since we have now the Minister of Defence on our side we are also safe.

CUT TO:

INT. CROCODILE’S OFFICE - MORNING

Crocodile and the Army General are having their own meeting.

CROCODILE
That’s unfair how The President can talk your retiring when he himself being the oldest man doesn’t want to give up his post.

GENERAL CHIWENGA
They Know the Army is standing on your side so they are trying to destroy Team Lacoste.

EXT. MAZOWE - AERIAL VIEW - DAY

We fly over the farms and Mazowe dam.

NARRATOR
In January 2015, Grace forcibly removed more than two hundred families from farms which they were allocated during the controversial land reform program. Grace had announced plans to annex more land to set up a private wildlife sanctuary, hospital, secondary school and Robert Mugabe University.
EXT. MAZOWE - DAY

We see six truckloads of riot personnel from the Zimbabwe Republic Police ENTERING in Mazowe.

They jump of the trucks, burn down houses on the farms chasing the farmers away

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RALLY - DAY

Grace’s ally and outspoken SARAH MAHOKA are giving speech.

OUTSPoken
Mnangagwa is being factionalism and I challenge him to speak out. He is a duck which just quacks as its ducklings perish.

EXT. ZANU PF HEAD QUARTERS - DAY

Mutsvangwa had called the war veteran to brief them about Mugabe’s decision.

MUTSVANGWA
Comrades we are going to stand with comrade Mnangagwa no matter what? Just because Grace has opened the legs for the present it’s doesn’t give her access to become the president. There is different between partners in sex and partners in war.

Another Angle

Police riot approaches with water cannons. They begin tear gassing and spraying the water cannon at the war veterans.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. - STATE HOUSE - DAY

President Mugabe is giving a speech in a State Of the Nation Address.
THE PRESIDENT
The war veteran leader did not inform me, the VPs or security ministers about the war veterans meeting. We take exception to that; he has acted in a manner we describe as irresponsible, completely irresponsible. People were naturally hurt or at least they had this water from cannons come on their bodies and teargas as well.

The room falls silent. The President leans back in his chair, studying the circle of men around the table, weighing them.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
The war veteran leader bears responsibility for inviting war veterans to an illegal meeting, he abused his authority as Minister in the gravest way possible, and we take exception to that. The Minister of War Veterans should explain his intended hidden agenda to mobilize such a demonstration without following proper channels. Those who say we are G40 or Lacoste shut up, stop dividing the party.

EXT. CHIWESHE - DAY
The First Lady is addressing the crowd.

FIRST LADY
The military wanted to kill my son Bellarmine and bomb my Alpha Omega dairy. I’m not afraid of being shot by Mhangagwa's allies. Let me tell you, even if you make a slogan and… if you do a slogan omitting me it's useless because I am still your President's wife.

The First Lady lacks humbleness. She said full of pride as she marches up and down the podium.

I am not worried if you make slogans, it doesn't bother me. I am still the First Lady, it will never change the status don’t worry yourselves ladies!

(MORE)
I am here as President Mugabe's wife. Period! That's the reality, when President Mugabe quits I will remain the former First Lady of Zimbabwe and called for mutual respect within the party.

No applause. The First Lady's tone is very harsh. And the crowd looks like they are on a burial ceremony as the show sympathy. From the background an infant cries. It's a hot afternoon and some people have been just picked from the streets and forced to the rally.

FIRST LADY (CONT'D)
I have been watching people making slogans leaving me out, oh my God, sorry, I feel sorry for you. You women make slogans leaving me out yet I am the one who put you in that position. It's not right for you to do that. If are not wearing the party uniform I will ask why you are not wearing one and I will tell you there and then. If you hate me because I have told you the truth don't come to me when things go wrong for you.

She takes a breathe. Still no applause. She cools her body with cold water but not her temper.

FIRST LADY (CONT'D)
Don't pretend to support me thinking now that you will have a position in the party you don't need. I can say I still need you, if you don't like that you will like me whether you like it or not. Mark my words. I bet you will need me in future. I am saying this because as women we must love and respect one another. As women we should not allow the youths to be better than us. As women we should not tolerate factionalism among us. You stop it, you stop it forthwith!

Finally she gets applause now after such a long speech.
Relations between the military and the first family soured as a result, prompting Mugabe to attack security officials for meddling in Zanu PF internal affairs at the party's annual conference in Victoria Falls in December 2015.

INT. VICFALLS - LOBBY - NIGHT

The President enters the lobby from h in the middle of a debate. Military uniforms dominate the room: General Chiwengwa, General Sibusiso Moyo, General SHIRI, Commander Air Marshal Perrance Shiri and a host of briefing officers

They all stand up and stand still saluting him. He walks across and takes a sit.

The General sit down. There is a silent. Then the President clears his throat.

THE PRESIDENT
I would not allow you to go around boasting and pretending to be kingmakers even if they can express their views within the limits of the constitution and the law.

The President stares General Chiwengwa his intelligence perhaps that suggests he's playing a role he knows and believes in.

INT. VICFALLS - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

President Mugabe addresses the congress.

THE PRESIDENT
The military has no right, you know, to be interfering with the political processes; theirs is to support. They can give their own views within the constitution and according to also the principle that politics shall always lead the gun and not the gun politics.

The President leans back in his chair. Everyone in the room listens to him with rapt attention.
THE PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
That will be a coup. Now see what
is coming from some of the senior
army personnel, they are saying the
president should go. Leave to
accommodate who? Who has been
identified to take over?. It's
disgraceful for anyone to say 'I am
the one now, President must go.
Someone is being boastful saying
yes, I am the one now; No, we
can't, we can't, we can't.

INT. CROCODILE’S OFFICE – DAY
Crocodile is having meeting with ZIMBABWE Anti-Corruption
Commission (ZACC). The COMMISSIONER is a young man in his
forties.

CROCODILE
I want you to investigate Professor
in cases involving the abuse of
Zimbabwe Defence Force funds.

INT. STREET – DAY
Benz is moving slowly in the Street of Harare. It’s not a
busy afternoon.

INT. BENZ – DAY
Professor is alone talking on the phone.

THE PROFESSOR
Mrs. President the Team Lacoste has
set Anti-Corruption Commission to
investigate on me.

FIRST LADY (O.S.)
Never mind they won’t win us. This
time President is on your side your
career won’t be killed.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION – SITTING ROOM – EVENING
The President, Grace and Professor are having a talk.
PROFESSOR
They are trying nailing me to weaken the G40 Mr. President. Why has he order Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate on me.

THE PRESIDENT
I will strip of his role as justice minister, in a cabinet reshuffle to reduce his powers and quash opposition within the government.

PROFESSOR
That’s great Mr. President.

EXT. STREET - MORNING
A Range Rover cruising down the road.

INT. RANGE ROVER - MORNING
Crocodile is on the steering wheel. He looks as if he is absent minded yet he drives with care.

INT. CABINET ROOM - MORNING
The President is addressing the cabinet ministers.

PRESIDENT
I’ve done this reshuffle as a way of maintaining order within the government and that we may have a good progress. We are trying to correct the mistake we have made more quickly, and thoroughly better.

EXT. PALIAMENT - DAY
The RANGE ROVER is parked among executives car.

INT. RANGE ROVER - DAY
Crocodile is sitting on the driver’s sit while Mutsvangwa is on the passenger sit.
MUTSVANGWA
Just because you set up an investigation on their man they shuffled you to weaken your power.

CROCODILE
They don’t know that they are pruning the branch of a tree that it may grow straight.

INT. MUGABE’S MANSION – NIGHT
Grace and her husband are having dinner.

FIRST LADY
I think its high time now for you to name your successor.

THE PRESIDENT
No, no, no, I don't want to impose any candidate. I’ve already told you that. Let the people choose the one they want for themselves.

FIRST LADY
But you have a role; you have the right to be part of that process of deciding who is going to be President when you leave the post because people will respect him.

INT. MAZOWE – DAY
The G40 are gathering for their usual meeting.

FIRST LADY
Mr. President is not willingly to choose the successor but nevertheless I will make him choose by addressing the issue in the public.

EXT. WOMAN CONFERENCE – DAY
Grace addressing women’s league and youth.

FIRST LADY
There will be no succession without Mugabe. He has a right to anoint his chosen successor.

(MORE)
His word is final and marks my words, it's coming.

Whistle and ululation from a section of the crowd.

In some countries, leaders choose their successors; the late South African president Nelson Mandela anointed another former South African leader Thabo Mbeki. Tell us who you want to lead us and we will campaign for that person. We just want your word and it's done. You must not be scared. So if you President choose me you will see what happens because in ZANU-PF, we want things to be done openly. Cde President if you tell us your successor, we will openly follow that person.

Women’s League secretary for administration LETINA UNDENGE then led the group in singing Uri Musoja Usatye (you are a soldier, don't be afraid) apparently urging Mugabe to bite the bullet and make the announcement.

We don't want factionalism. We don't like it when people say the President is old. When he feels he cannot carry on he will tell us. Why should we hide the successor? The successor is just talked about clandestinely. Is it that he/she is not the true successor? The true successor is openly revealed to the people. We also ask president to appoint a woman to the presidium.

She looks for support around the room. The women ululate. While she only meets only stony gazes from male ZANU Pf officials.

The amendment of Article 7.1.b of the ZANU PF constitution to reinstate the provision that states that one of the two vice-presidents and second secretary must be a woman.
INT. LOBBY - DAY

Crocodlie and his crew are watching the coverage on the Lobby’s T.V. They are putting on T-shirts labelled ‘Team Lacoste’. Their T-shirts had a crocodile emblem painted in national colors.

MUTSVANGWA
What a surprise. She really stunned his husband. She is really fighting hard for your removal. She knows Mhpoko will not be removed according to the constitution. And for a woman to enter into presidium it’s you to leave. Unless he makes three vice adding the female.

CROCODILE
Let’s hear the president’s response to the challenge.

EXT. WOMAN CONFERENCE - DAY

The President is now giving the speech.

THE PRESIDENT
We came here to listen and we have been good listeners. We have heard your complaints and recommendations. We hope you will write to the politburo and allow this to be discussed at central committee level. As a party we cannot afford to ignore your recommendations. We are sorry if the Women’s League is offended by the delay. I also have two suggestions that I would want you to consider. My suggestion is that we leave things as they are at the top and consider the idea of three vice-presidents to add a woman to the two. The other would be to revert to the original position and amend the constitution, then go to congress. I want you to think about that.

INT. ZANU PF HEAD QUARTERS - DAY

Professor is addressing youth.
PROFESSOR
As we wait for President to make his final decisions I suggest Sekeramayi is a better candidate to succeed Mugabe than Mnangagwa.

EXT. MARONDERA - DAY

Minister of Defence is giving his speech in a rally. President Mugabe is sitting at the VIP tent with other ZANU OFFICIALS.

SEKERAMAYI
The president is there to stay and would represent Zanu PF in the next elections. Those endorsing themselves as Mugabe's successors forget. Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the President of Zimbabwe. President Robert Gabriel Mugabe.

Thunderous applause as President Mugabe rises and approaches the podium with his body guard behind him.

THE PRESIDENT
(in Shona)
Forward with ZANU PF.

CROWD
(in Shona)
Forward!

PRESIDENT
When the sun sets, it shall rise from Mashonaland East; do you hear me?

Applause from the audience.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Crocodile, General Chiwengwa, Mutsvangwa are having their meeting.

CROCODILE
When the sun sets, it shall rise from Mashonaland East; do you hear me?
GENERAL CHIWENGWA
The defence minister hails from that province. It looks like the die is cast on succession

MUTSVANGWA
We will continue to resist Grace's ideology and fight back. It's not yet over until it's over

EXT. MBARE - DAY

The First Lady is speaking at a ZANU PF Harare inter-district meeting. Her voice is not tremors of fear but of anger. It goes hard and cold.

FIRST LADY
I know that Mnangagwa is the leader of Team Lacoste; why are you remaining quiet when your people are insulting the presidency? Some youths are being expelled from the party for indiscipline and you are being seen together at your house drinking tea and beer with them and that is not right.

The youth cheer while the women ululate. She continues to blare into a microphone"

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
We get angry when we see such things. We don't like people who go around threatening people that if their preferred candidate or Mnangagwa is not elevated to the presidency, we will shoot you. Kill if you can, why aren't you?

She smiles weakly, but gets no response from anyone.

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
You are irreplaceable president, you will rule from your grave at the Heroes Acre because you are a uniting force for us. They say I want to be President. Why not? Am I not a Zimbabwean? So be careful youngsters do not play this game. It is a dangerous game. It is not meant to be played by the youths but by only those people in the positions of Vice Presidents.
She looks around and her eyes dwell on the youth League Chairman known as COMRADE CHIPANGA

FIRST LADY (CONT’D)
Your people Cde Chipanga constitute 62 percent of the population. So we woman must tell our children to go and register to vote. What is good about the youth is that it constitutes both, male and female children. So we women must play our part, especially the Women’s League to tell our children to go and vote. We want to know that our children have registered to vote.

EXT. GLEAN EAGLES HOSPITAL - SINGAPORE - DAY

The President Mugabe motorcade arrived at the hospital. It is packed with local journalist.

Grace is annoyed. She throws a huge fit, before charging at the journalists. She grabs equipment belonging to one local journalist, and tries to destroy it.

During the scuffle, she grabs one cellphone belonging to another journalist who tries to take pictures and throws it into a water pond.

Security at the high profile hospital manages to end the scuffle, while Mrs. Mugabe is restrained by members of her security and protocol team.

INT. GLEAN EAGLES HOSPITAL - MUGABE’S WARD - NIGHT

President Mugabe is dozing off on bed while Grace sits behind him on the side of the bed. She holds her hand.

FIRST LADY
I will see you tomorrow honey.

EXT. GLEAN EAGLES HOSPITAL - MORNING

The First Lady’s motorcade parks on the parking space. As she get out she is confronted by an even bigger flock of journalists, buoyed by her behavior the previous day, and hoping to catch a glimpse of the nonagenarian Mugabe should he be discharged that day.

Again, she charges at the journalists, grabs another cellphone and threw it into the same pond.
This time however, police are called in by hospital staff and journalists. They responded in express time.

Grace Mugabe appears confident when police arrived, probably secure under the belief that her diplomatic immunity would make her untouchable.

POLICE COMMISSIONER
Mrs. Mugabe you have to replace or compensate the journalists you attacked for loss of their devices, or you and your family would not be allowed to leave the hospital.

Pan around the police had barricade the place.

EXT. MABVUKU STREETS - DAY
We see Bruce pushing a cart of vegetables. His phone rings. He answers it.

BRUCE
Hi

NYARADZO (O.S.)
Hi. Trevor has passed away.

INT. RURAL CEMETERY - DAY
People are gathers at the burial of Trevor. Bruce is giving a speech as his best friend.

BRUCE
To me Trevor is a Zimbabwean hero. When we talk about heroes of you think about Liberation fighters. No, Trevor was born after independence. He didn’t go to war but in his time he was a democracy. He supported the revolutionary party which is fighting for a change in Zimbabwe. It’s in one of the demonstration he was attacked by police and broke his ribs which has lead to his fate.

He begins to cry.

BRUCE (CONT’D)
Farewell Comrade.
INT. STATE HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

The President is having a private meeting with Grace, Mphoko and Professor.

THE PRESIDENT
I have received a letter of resignation from Mnangagwa. The faction of the war veterans has all but split from Zanu PF. The ambiguous allegiance of the war veterans might be clarified by their forming a political party of their own, which would further worsen splits within Zanu PF.

A beat no one dares to talk.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT’D)
For Zanu PF to remain in power the party will have no choice but to once again rig next year’s election the vote. If Grace got her wish and I baby dumped Mnangagwa; rigging the election in which Tsvangirai or Mujuru are the opponent is easy, not so with Mnangagwa because he, knows my secrets.

MPHOKO
So eliminating him is the solution.

THE PRESIDENT
It must be done on the conference It’s time to accomplish your mission now. You must go to Russia and organise the military poison.

INT. GUSHUNGO - DAIRY FARM - NIGHT

We see a man covering his face like a doctor working on a surgery.

He picks up an ice cream cup and makes a red mark on the bottom. He opens a small medical trunk. He takes small bottle labelled THALLIUM and put a drop of it in the cup.

EXT. GWANDA - DAY

President is sitting at the high table with other high level government delegates including Crocodile, Professor, Kasukuwere and a few cabinet ministers having a meal with other high level government delegates.
There are some youth dancers entertaining them.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - DAY

As a hand reaches for a cooler box and opens it. Picks up a pack of ice cream labelled VP. He opens the pick turns the cups upside down and picks the one with a mark on the bottom.

EXT. GWANDA - LATER

A CATERING STAFFER for the VPs gives Crocodile an ice cream for dessert.

EXT. FIRST LADY’S MANSION - SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

She is lying curled on the couch by the pool. She picks up her phone and dials the number.

FIRST LADY
Hi.

INTERCUT THE FOLLOWING:

Mphoko is sitting in his office.

MPHOKO
Hi Mrs. President.

FIRST LADY
Good. How far with the deal?

MPHOKO
It seems to be going well according to the plan.

FIRST LADY
Good work.

EXT. GWANDA - DAY

The dancers are killing themselves with various traditional dances to entertain his Excellency.

The crocodile had just finishes his ice cream. The ladies walk around collecting the empty ice cream cups. She reaches for the crocodiles' cup. As she picks it up...

CU THE MARK ON THE BOTTOM
The Crocodile is now sweating. He reaches for his handkerchief in shirt breast pocket and wipes the sweat.

He looks at the dancers for a while and then suddenly he feels massive pain chest.

He begins vomiting heavily with coughs of blood.

EXT. GWANDA HOSPITAL - DAY

The crocodile is rushed into the hospital.

EXT. GWANDA - DAY

The president is now giving speech.

THE PRESIDENT
The First Lady is in South Africa to have her foot examined following a freak accident at the Harare international airport a few weeks ago.

EXT. CLAYBANK HOSPITAL - GWERU - LATER

An Air Force helicopter lands on the parking lot. General and his assistance jumps out and helps the crocodile to get out. He manages to walk from the helicopter into the hospital.

INT. CLAYBANK HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

General is sitting on the bench with his sustenance. The young DOCTOR approaches them.

GENERAL CHIWENGWA
How is he?

DOCTOR
He is fine. I suggest taking him to South Africa for further treatment as a precaution.

EXT. GWANDA - LATER

The president motorcade is leaving the stadium.

Close on the President’s car labelled on the number plate ZIM ONE
INT. ZIM ONE - CONTINUOUS

President is sitting with Professor at the back.

PROFESSOR
He is likely to survive. He was rushed to Hospital with a Helicopter.

THE PRESIDENT
So who gave the command for the helicopter to fly him to the hospital? Protocol does not allow aircraft to be flown too close to the President when he is either sitting or at a function. So, security personnel are in a fix.

PROFESSOR
The General directive. Two helicopters left one to Bulawayo and the other to Gweru.

THE PRESIDENT
Obvious they have taken him to Bulawayo because that’s where there is a big hospital.

INT. SANDTON HOTEL - SOUTH AFRICA - EVENING

The president’s sons Robert JR and Chatunga are having party time with their South African girl friend GABRIELLA ENGELS and other girls. She is a beautiful young girl around 20.

INT. FIRST LADY’S MANSION - SOUTH AFRICA - EVENING

Grace is sleeping on the bed talking on the phone.

FIRST LADY
I will fix that bitch.

INT. STATE HOUSE - EVENING

The President is having dinner. Mphoko walk in.

MPHOKO
Evening Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT
Hi. You’ve done a good job but it seems like he is going to survive.
MPHOKO
I heard he is not in the Bulawayo Hospital.

THE PRESIDENT
What!

MPHOKO
They took him to South. The Helicopter which flew to Bulawayo was a deploy.

The President is angry.

THE PRESIDENT
So Mnangagwa has misled me.

INT. SANDTON HOTEL - EVENING

Gabriella is talking with her friends. The door swing open drawing everyone’s attention.

The First Lady and his body guards walk in.

Robert Jr and Chatunga flee from Grace's leaving her to take out her anger on the girls with an extension cord

Grace whipped Gabriella with an electric cable as bodyguards looked on.

She had various injuries including a deep gash on her forehead.

EXT. PRIVATE HOSPITAL - SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

We see a motorcade pulling at the parking lot.

INT. PRIVATE HOSPITAL - LOBBY - DAY

President is talking with the three doctors, WHITE MALE, BLACK MALE and a BLACK FEMALE.

WHITE DOCTOR
Indeed, the VP had ingested food laced with thallium.

INT. PRIVATE HOSPITAL - CROCODILE’S WARD - DAY

Crocodile is relaxing on the bed IVs attached to his body President walks in.
CROCODILE
MR. President how is you?

THE PRESIDENT
I’m good how you are feeling now?

CROCODILE
Better.

THE PRESIDENT
I’m sorry for what happened to you. I have set some investigation on the case. But I beg you to conceal medical results that you’ve been poisoned. The issue could rock the boat in our party. I’m here for a summit of southern African leaders in Pretoria.

INT. FIRST LADY’S MANSION - NIGHT

President and his family are having the dinner.

ROBERT JN
How is Mr. Mnangagwa?

THE PRESIDENT
He is fine.

ROBERT JN
Great.

THE PRESIDENT
So what is all this stories you making? Why are you tarnishing you images?

ROBERT JN
Anyway dad it’s not a big story the Issue has been solved.

THE PRESIDENT
But the image tarnished can it be corrected.

EXT. HARARE AIR PORT - MORNING

A LONG SHOT of an ENORMOUS CROWD. The President, barely recognizable at the distance, greeting government and military officials
THE PRESIDENT  
(Talking to the journalist)  
It was not food poisoning, no! The doctor said they tested his blood, but failed to find any traces of food poisoning. They tested for traces of poisoning caused by stale food because stale foods have different kinds of poison and there was none of that.

INT. STATE HOUSE - DAY

President Mugabe, First Lady and Mphoko are having a meeting.

FIRST LADY
You must fire Mnangagwa to conceal the poison and make sure that he dies out of government.

MPHOKO
Mrs. President is right. He is moving around saying he was poisoned.

INT. LOBBY - DAY

Crocodile is having a meeting with war veteran. He is addressing them.

CROCODILE
I never said that I was poisoned in Gwanda, but that I fell ill in Gwanda. During the briefing with His Excellency, the President, Cde R.G Mugabe, the medical doctors who attended to me ruled out food poisoning, but confirmed that indeed poisoning had occurred and that investigations were still in progress. They, however, established that poisoning had indeed occurred and investigations were in progress.

One of the war veterans presents him a cup written the BOSS. Mutsvangwa, also gives a speech.
MUTSVANGWA
The party rivals who did not participate in the liberation war, saying that they could never rule this country.

EXT. HARARE - DAY

It’s the launch of YOUTH BANK OF EMPOWERMENT. The First Lady is addressing youth and women.

FIRST LADY
There are some who think that because they fought in the war to liberate the country, their war credentials give them the right to do what they want. Are you the only one who fought in that war? You can't like the president and hate his wife. Its impossible. I'm the first lady and Mnangagwa is nobody. He was employed by my husband. Why would I kill him? I can't prepare one cup of an ice cream to kill Mnangagwa. Who is he? I'm the wife of a president. When you go around saying all nonsensical stuff it means you have failed the politics. You need to stay home.

INT. LOBBY - DAY

The TEAM LACOSTE is watching on a TV the live Broadcasting of the youth league. General Chiwengwa is with them.

GENERAL CHIWENGWA
It’s enough now they are going too far.

EXT. HARARE - DAY

Grace is sitting down watching Chipanga giving a speech.

CHIPANGA
Truly speaking, in heaven there is God and here on earth there is an angel called Robert Gabriel Mugabe. You are representing God here on earth, Mugabe as Deputy Jesus. He is our messiah... He is second to Jesus. He is our liberator.

(MORE)
We honour God and we have our Jesus. Thirdly, we honour President Mugabe. He is our liberator. When Jesus came, he liberated this world. When President Mugabe came, he liberated us during his lifetime. So, why not honour him?

EXT. STREETS - DAY

Bruce is sitting on his cart with fresh fruit. He is reading a newspaper.

A well-groomed MAN approaches his.

MAN
Bruce!

Bruce looks up.

BRUCE
Hey, man it’s you Joshua.

JOSHUA
Long time.

BRUCE
Yeah.

JOSHUA
Is there were you will be every day?

BRUCE
Yes, what else can we do in ZIM. No jobs.

JOSHUA
But how is it doing?

BRUCE
Not much bad? What are you doing now these days.

JOSHUA
I’m a cross border. I cross to South Africa and come with some electrical gadgets. If you like we can go together.

BRUCE
I don’t have enough capital.
JOSHUA
If you are serious you can have a loan

He takes a business card.

JOSHUA (CONT’D)
You can call him for a loan. That’s what helped me.

INT. LOAN SHARK - OFFICE

The Loan Shark MR. BARON is a fat man in his thirties. He is counting a huge sum of money.

Angle on Bruce smiling.

EXT. BUILDING - DAY

Bruce walks out off the building. A MAN with some sun glasses follows him down the street. It is crowded.

EXT. BUS STOP - LATER

Bruce is trying to squeeze his way through on a pressure with a small crowd to enter in a private car. The MAN with the sunglass is among the crowd his hands reaches for Bruce’s Jean’s back pocket and slowly picks up his wallet.

EXT. BULAWAYO - DAY

A ZANU PF youth interface rally is in progress. Crocodile and his WIFE is there.

Thunderous applause as Grace rises and approaches the podium..

FIRST LADY
(in shona)
Forward with ZANU PF.

She looks around for response the women shouted back

WOMEN
Forward!

FIRST LADY
Forward with President Mugabe.
WOMEN
Forward!

FIRST LADY
Down with Factionalism.

WOMEN
Down!

FIRST LADY
I want to thank Cde Chipanga for organizing the interface rallies and emphasised that the party has one centre of power. It is worrying that the industries are closed because our youths need to feed their families. I said to Cde Chipanga, well done because it appeared as if it was Zanu-PF Women's League only. Youth League you had to do this to be recognized.

Some rallygoers heckle The First Lady, chanting at her.

RALLYGOERS
You know nothing! You are too junior

FIRST LADY
Order, order please.

The youth start booing her.

She shouted back at the hecklers.

FIRST LADY
If you have been paid to boo me, boo, go ahead. I don’t care, I am powerful.

A section of the crowd broke into a popular local song “oyenzayo siyaizonda” which translates to “we hate what you do.”

ANGLE ON CROCODILE
He laughs with his wife.

FIRST LADY
Even if I become vice president, is there anything wrong with that? Anyone who was with Mugabe in 1980 has no right to tell him he is old.

(MORE)
FIST LADY (CONT'D)
If you want Mugabe to go, then you leave together. You also have to leave. Then we take over because we were not there in 1980.

CUT TO:

EXT. BULAWAYO - LATER
The President is in rage as he speaks.

THE PRESIDENT
We are denigrated and insulted in the name of Mnangagwa. Did I make a mistake in appointing him as my deputy? If I made a mistake of appointing Mnangagwa tell me. I will drop him as early as tomorrow. We are not afraid of anyone. We can decide even here. If it has come to this, it is time we make a final decision, Mnangagwa and his supporters are free to leave ZANU-PF. You can go ahead and form your party because we honestly cannot have this. We cannot be insulted on a daily basis.

CUT TO:

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE - DAY
Chipanga is addressing the media.

CHIPANGA
The Zanu PF youth league is fully behind the secretary for women's affairs, Dr Amai Grace Mugabe, in calling for the urgent removal of Cde Mnangagwa from the position of Vice-President both in the party and government. That position has to be for one who is acceptable and with unquestionable loyalty to the party and its principal, the President, Cde RG Mugabe, and more importantly, one without ambitions to work against the President.

(MORE)
The only person possessing such qualities is the leader of the women's league, none other than Her Excellency the First Lady of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Amai Dr Grace Mugabe,

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE - DAY

The General is having a press conference.

GENERAL CHIWENGWA
The internal succession power struggling in ZANU PF had negatively impacted on the citizenry. I'm demanding an end to the purging of party leaders associated with the liberation struggle. I ask Mr. President Mugabe to stop the ongoing purge on former Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa's allies ahead of ZANU PF's December extraordinary congress. All ZANU PF counter revolutionaries bent on destroying the party from within.

EXT. AIRPORT - EVENING

We see the General boarding a plane.

INT. STATE HOUSE - NIGHT

Grace and President Mugabe are in bed lying awake.

FIRST LADY
So you are not responding to the General threat.

THE PRESIDENT
The situation is coming tense. You should finish what you started.

FIRST LADY
We started together you promise to support me and you will. You are the president and the general is under you.
INT. PRESS CONFERENCE – MORNING

Chipanga is delivering a message fighting back the general’s challenge.

CHIPANGA
The Army General is offside and millions of youths will not allow you. You are treading on thin ice and could be charged with treason.

NARRATOR
As Chipanga delivered his statement literally calling Chiwenga to order, Mugabe convened a Cabinet session as usual at which insiders said Chiwenga's fate was sealed. Cabinet agreed he would be charged with treason, this was days after Mugabe sacked his deputy Emmerson Mnangagwa, clearing the path for Grace to assume the role and succeed him. Defence minister Sidney Sekeramayi, who was believed to be the anointed successor, was likely to be made the third vice-president, joining Grace and Phelekezela Mphoko

CUT TO:

INT. FANGAZ STUDIO – DAY

A small ghetto musical studio. The musical producer FANGAZ is recording Bruce singing.

BRUCE
WE MUST CELEBRATE THE MOTHER OF THE NATION. SHE HAS COME WITH POWER. IT’S NOW THE RISE OF THE NEW GENERATION. ITS TIME TO TOWER. ALL THINGS ARE GOING TO BE CALM. WE SAY WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME Grace.

Fangaz indicates for him to stop. He walks from the singing room into the recording room.

FANGAZ
You were scared to sing man but your voice is not bad.
BRUCE
A certain Pastor once told me if you can talk you can sing.

FANGAZ
He was right. This song is powerful. You are going to make money out it. I’m sure the First Lady will pour out a huge amount.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

The General back is back in Zimbabwe. He descends the plane’s stairway.

He is escorted by a team from the Presidential Guard which had come to welcome him.

The police officers with instructions to arrest him approaches him.

He is really shocked. The police officers tries to arrest him.

There is a tense and almost volatile situation which only calmed after the police team retreated.

EXT. PRESS CONFERENCE - LATER

The general talks with the media.

GENERAL CHIWENGWA
We must remind those behind the current treacherous shenanigans that, when it comes to matters of protecting our revolution, the military will not hesitate to step in. The current purging, targeting members of the party with a liberation background must stop forthwith.

INT. ZANU PF HEAD OFFICE - MORNING

Bruce is at the receptionist. He takes two CDs with the image of First Lady on the face and had over to the RECEPTIONIST. She is in her mid fifties.
RECEPTIONIST
We will send your CDs to the information center to verify your message and the permission to release. As far as I’m concerned your song is good and it will be played on the congress. The First Lady is going to be impressed.

Bruce smiles.

BRUCE’S VOICE
My dream has come true to meet his excellency and the first lady of Zimbabwe. Its true one man’s gift will make him sit with the kings and princes.

EXT. STREETS - DAY
Bruce is pinned by two bouncers on a corner.

BOUNCER #1
When are you going to pay back our money?

BRUCE
Please don’t hurt me. Tomorrow I might have the chance to meet the First Lady. I had composed a song for her which is going to bring thousands of dollars to me. Let me show you the copy.

The bouncers left him. He takes a CD in his bag and hand over it to the bouncer.

BOUNCER #1
You are really serious that you have sung a song for the first lady.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - DAY
His parents are sitting at having lunch. Bruce rushes in he is looking happy than before that his parents are surprised.

MOTHER
What’s the matter?
BRUCE
At last mom I’m making my name is this world.

MOTHER
What is it son?

He takes the CD. Put it on the radio and begins to play.

MOTHER (CONT’D)
It’s you who sing that song.

BRUCE
Yes, I have been at the ZANU office, everyone has liked the song and soon after the information department approved it will be in the ear of the First Lady.

EXT. INKOMO BARRACKS - AERIAL VIEW - DAY
Military armored personnel carriers emerges from Inkomo Barracks and are seen along Lomagundi Road and some parts of Harare. A military presence was felt in the city.

INT. OFFICE - EVENING
Acting CIO director-general is in the office with his COLLEGE. They are both around 50.

The Acting Director receives a call.

CIO DIRECTOR
I think we should call the army to find out what is happening with this large movement of military without the knowledge of the president.

INT. PRESIDENT’S MANSION - EVENING
The President and The First Lady are paying attention to the CIO Director.

CIO DIRECTOR
I’m sure a state of emergency is developing.

THE PRESIDENT
What I was afraid of might be happening now coup.
EXT. ZBC HIGHLANDS - EVENING

The army had seized the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation. Army tanks are stationed at ZBC radio and TV stations manned by heavily armed soldiers, who, however, are not interfere with the movement of members of the public.

EXT. HARARE - NIGHT

Army tanks surrounding parliamentary and presidential buildings.

EXT. PROFESSOR’S HOUSE - NIGHT

The Police Protection Unit assigned to guard the premise begins to vacate.

Professor and his family 6 CHILDREN and his wife desert their house.

INT. KASUKUWERE’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - NIGHT

It is packed with two families Kasukuwere’s family and Professor’s family where they had sought sanctuary.

EXT. KASUKUWERE’S HOUSE - NIGHT

A group of army marches pushes their way in the compound started shooting indiscriminately. They sprayed the house with bullets, which triggered the alarm.

The soldiers thought the people are dead and they left.

INT. KASUKUWERE’S HOUSE - LATER

No one has died. Everyone was hiding.

INT. KGVI ARMY HEAD QUARTERS - CELL - NIGHT

Locked in one room are other 4 corrupt ministers include Chipanga and other politicians they believe orchestrated Mnangagwa’s axing.

INT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - MORNING

Bruce and his family are watching the news.
On the screen is MAJOR GENERAL giving the news.

MAJOR GENERAL
This is not a military take over. We assure the nation that his Excellency the president... and his family are safe and sound and their security is guaranteed. We are only targeting criminals around him who are committing crimes that are causing social and economic suffering in the country, in order to bring them to justice.

FATHER
This is a coup. Mugabe and his wife Grace are under house arrest. This signals that the first lady has lost her grip on power.

MOTHER
And they military will be following those who have sung the songs for First Lady. Watch out Bruce.

Bruce is not happy about the news. His dream has been killed. He walks out of the house without comment.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE - DAY

Chipanga is addressing the media and when he speaks, his voice resonates throughout the room, powerful, smooth, hypnotic.

CHIPANGA
Please Sir accepts my apologies on behalf of the Youth League and myself. We are still young people. We are still growing up and learning from our mistakes. From this big mistake, we have learnt a lot. I'm sorry for the things I said, and for not respecting you, and for all the stupid things that... I will also like to emphasise that this statement which I have given I have not been persuaded neither coerced or forced to do as such.

(MORE)
CHIPANGA (CONT'D)
I emphasise that I have reflected on my own as a young person, as the leader of the Youth League hence I have come to this juncture of offering myself to the State media to give this public apology. We shall also make frantic efforts to approach the commanders of our Defence Forces in person so that we convey this apology. I thank you.

EXT. MAVUKU - AERIAL VIEW - DAY
The crowd is milling in the streets celebrating for resignation of President Mugabe.

NARRATOR
President Mugabe and his wife were put in custody. Though urged to resign, the longtime leader continued to cling to power for almost a week — until Tuesday, when the threat of impeachment gave him little choice.

EXT. BRUCE’S HOUSE - EVENING
Bruce is standing in the garden burning down his CDs with song for the First Lady.

Tears are running down his face as outside his gate people make noises.

His mother walks to him.

MOTHER
Why are you not happy? Our nation is now free from the Tyrant the man who had made Zimbabwe suffer. He decided to turn Zimbabwe into a de facto one-party cum one-man. His wife was well on course to succeed him. That would have created a Mugabe Dynasty. His own fate has been hastened by the insatiable greed for power, wealth and influence of his wife Grace. I think those who were aligned to the first family, I think they are the ones who are going to face the brunt of the new regime.
She walks away.

    BRUCE’S VOICE
    There was nothing wrong for the G40
    and indeed a new generation of
    leader to emerge the manner with
    which the clique of these four
    politicians executed their plan was
    not only unprecedented in the
    party, but also reeked of all kind
    of bad and corrupt smells.

The gate swing open and the two bouncers walk in.

    BOUNCERS #1
    So where will you get the money you
    pay back the loan. Your First Lady
    whom you had put your trust is no
    more in power.

    BRUCE
    Please give me some time.

    BOUNCERS #2
    Man you are putting your father’s
    house in the risk.

They give him a look, devoid of humanity for an instant and
walk away.

INT. STADIUM – DAY

Full packed as thousands of people come to witness the
inauguration of President Mnangagwa. Police Band bands plays
the music. The scene is deafening, boisterous.

    CUT TO:

EXT. STREET – DAY

Bruce is pushing down his cart in the road. A car comes to
halt by his side and the door window opens.

He looks at the driver hoping is someone who wants to buy
some fruits.

He can’t believe what he is seeing. It’s is Beatrice. She is
even more beautiful with some make up.

She smiles at him.
BEATRICE
Don’t you remember me?

Bruce is ashamed for the way he is now.

BEATRICE (CONT’D)
There’s always a chance, Bruce. There will be a tomorrow, and the next day, and the next. Hop in let’s go to the stadium and celebrate with our new President.

BRUCE
What about my cart, my fruits...

BEATRICE
Never mind I will compensate you.

Bruce jumps in the car and it pulls away.

NARRATOR
And Professor tweeted: While the violence of the gun is real, powerful devastating, it is always a temporary empty dead end in that it is not as everlasting as the power of generational renewal which is unstoppable as a permanent force of history progressive ideas. There’ll never be anyone like Cde RG Mugabe. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have served my country under with him. I'm proud that I stood with by this iconic leader during the trying moments of the last days of his Presidency. Democracy requires politics to lead the gun.

FADE TO BLACK.